

Bay **B.A.R.** Reporter

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26



California Budget Lost in Space

by Dave Gilden

Another week, and another round of budget proposals circulated through the state Capitol as California approached the July 1 deadline for deciding on the next fiscal year's budget. But missing still is a detailed analysis of how the state is supposed to curtail spending by \$11 billion next year. The recession-induced reduction is necessary to make up for tax shortfalls this year and next and to provide for increased demand for

welfare, medical and education programs.

Both parties seem to have given up trying to account for the enlarged populations that state programs will have to serve. In this way, they have whittled down the projected financial gap by \$5 billion. They have also guaranteed a major red ink spill next year at this time when the \$5 billion has to be made up.

In the meantime, there has been little public discussion of the extent of the crisis facing the state or of the mea-

sures required to resolve it, be they reductions in outlays or tax increases.

"The Legislature and the governor are afraid that if the public were aware of the scope of the cuts under consideration, then the revolution would come," said Robert Rios of the LIFE Lobby, a Sacramento-based AIDS and gay rights lobbying group.

Liberal Assemblyman Tom Bates, D-Oakland, is co-chair of the legislative task force dealing with health and welfare issues.

Commenting on the closed-door proceedings, Bates aide Rachel Richman said, "It's not like lengthening waiting periods from one to two weeks. These cuts are life or death, or close to it. We really should be talking in the plus column and not in the negative column because there are very few cuts in health-related services that will not cost more later on."

Gov. Wilson's current budget plan provides for no new taxes other than increasing

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ddC Ok'd for Combo Therapy

by Dave Gilden

Eleven years after medical authorities first noticed the AIDS epidemic, a third drug is going on sale to fight HIV. The drug, known as ddC or zalcitabine, was approved this week by the Food and Drug Administration for use in combination with the now standard anti-HIV drug AZT. The FDA approval limited ddC use to those whose immune systems were already significantly impaired by the disease process leading to AIDS.

AZT and ddC work in similar fashion, by blocking the

ability of HIV to infect new white blood cells. Neither drug alone can do more than temporarily slow the advance of AIDS, but a few small studies have found the combination to have a more long-lasting effect.

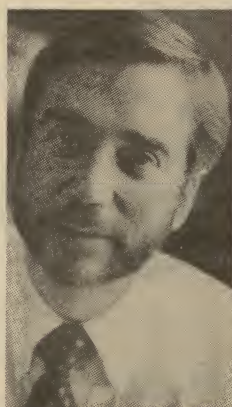
"Now that we have this approval behind us, we can move on to better drugs," John James, editor of the respected AIDS Treatment News, said.

The FDA's review of ddC fell under new procedures to accelerate the processing of treatments for life-threatening diseases. Approval came just eight months after ddC's man-

ufacturer, Hoffman-La Roche, submitted its application for the compound. The FDA usually takes about 2-1/2 years to review a new drug application.

Not only was the approval process accelerated, but the data submitted in support of the application was very preliminary. The FDA based its decision on two small studies that showed the AZT-ddC combination increased the blood count of infection-fighting helper T-cells, the key cell population decimated by AIDS. No evidence was presented to confirm that ddC

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Dr. Donald Abrams

Inside



Gay Pride Special

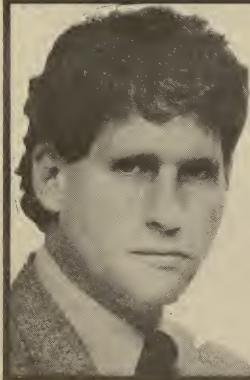
The Bay Area Reporter presents a special pride section focusing on some of the best of who we are. Section 2.

Perot Liaison

Ross Perot names a lesbian as his liaison to the California gay and lesbian community. Story, page 14.

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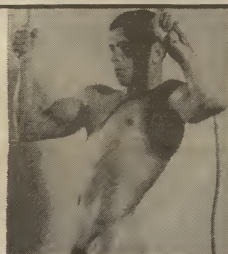
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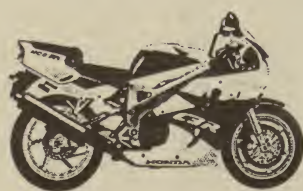
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Routing Gays From Military Costing U.S. Millions, Study Says

United Press International

WASHINGTON — A congressional auditing agency said June 19 that the Pentagon's ban on homosexuals in the U.S. military cost the American taxpayer at least \$27 million in 1990 alone.

"Calculations using (Defense Department) average costs for the recruitment and initial training of enlisted and officer personnel suggests a replacement cost of approximately \$27 million for those personnel separated for homosexuality in 1990, if those individuals were replaced on a one-for-one basis," the report of the General Accounting Office said.

The GAO, which is Congress's auditing agency, said the actual costs of the military's homosexual ban were probably higher than that, because its estimates did not include the replacement costs for such personnel ousted on other ostensible grounds, nor did it include the costs of the investigations that frequently accompany separations for homosexuality.

"The costs associated with the administration of homo-

Britain Eases Restrictions On Gays in Military

United Press International

LONDON — The Commons voted June 17 to repeal regulations making homosexuality a criminal offense in the armed forces.

Defense Minister Jonathan Aitken cautioned that those taking part in homosexual activity would still be dismissed from the armed forces.

The difference, he said, is that now they will not risk having a criminal record because of their sexual preference.

Peter Tatchell, a spokesman for OutRage, a group

that defends the rights of homosexuals, said that "by this decision the government is reiterating its support for institutionalized discrimination against the homosexual community."

"It means that every year about 70 lesbians and gay men will continue to be drummed out of the armed forces because of their homosexual orientation."

Actor Michael Cashman, chair of gay rights group Stonewall, told the BBC that discharge for homosexuality could still destroy careers. ▼

sexual discharges, which involve a separation process and may include investigation, are not tracked by the Department of Defense or the services," the GAO report said.

It said that from 1980 through 1990, 16,919 servicemen and women were kicked

out on grounds of homosexuality, an average of 1,500 annually. Most of these were enlisted, male and white. In 1990 the year of GAO's cost estimate, such separations had reached a low of about 1,000.

"Many experts," the GAO

(Continued on page 30)



La Red, the San Francisco chapter of a Latino/a lesbian and gay network in the United States, and the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission protest a Nicaraguan sodomy law.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Nicaraguan Sodomy Law Protested

by Rachel Timoner

About 100 lesbian, gay and bisexual activists rallied in front of the Nicaraguan Consulate at Market and Powell on June 22 to protest the passage of the most restrictive sodomy law in Latin America by the Nicaraguan National Assembly 11 days earlier.

The law imposes one to three years in prison if an individual "induces, promotes, propagandizes or practices in a scandalous manner, the cohabitation between individuals of the same sex."

The action, which was sponsored by La Red, the San Francisco chapter of a Latino/a lesbian and gay network in the U.S. and Latin America, the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission, and other groups, was designed to pressure Nicaragua's President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro not to

sign the anti-sodomy statute into law.

"There will be no walls between the struggle for lesbian and gay civil rights here and Latin America, because we are everywhere," Sandra Camacho, a representative of La Red, told the crowd.

"Let us not forget that here in this country we have sodomy laws. We are also sending a message to the U.S. government that we will not be silent and we will not be defenseless."

Other speakers made the connection between the religious right in the United States and the repressive Catholic forces in Nicaragua, arguing that U.S. fundamentalists are influencing Nicaraguan policy.

"The Nicaraguan religious right has allies here. Domino's Pizza is paying for a new controversial cathedral in

Nicaragua. Book burners and Bible thumpers know no borders," Tede Matthews, a representative of ILGHR, said.

"Nicaraguan lesbian and gay activists began organizing in 1986, working with the Sandinista government for AIDS education. But the Chamorro government replaced the sex education program with a system of Catholic morality," Matthews said.

Activists here said that the Nicaraguan lesbian, gay and feminist forces that are organizing together as the Working Group for a Sexuality Free of Prejudice were taken by surprise by the anti-sodomy measure because it was added on to a progressive anti-rape law in the Assembly.

The coalition held a news conference June 18 to announce its plans to organize a

(Continued on page 31)

Suburban Homophobia Blamed in Defeat

by Dennis Conkin

Following his defeat for the San Mateo County 14th District Congressional seat, openly gay San Mateo County Supervisor Tom Nolan said that he had the right time, the right message and the right campaign team.

But, Nolan said, he believes in retrospect that he had the wrong district.

"It pains me to admit it, but being gay and open in the suburbs isn't as free and isn't as much of a non-issue as I'd like to believe," he said.

Although Nolan said that his sexual orientation isn't the sole reason that he lost, he believes that he would have placed better than third behind victor Ann Eshoo and candidate Ted Lempert had "homophobia not reared its ugly head."

Nolan also had critical words for the Democratic establishment, which virtually ignored his race, despite leading endorsements from labor and trade unions and the San Jose Mercury News.

"I was called by some of the people in the Democratic leadership who said they were 'oh, so sorry,' but they didn't lift a finger to help when it could have been significant," he said.

"I have a real profound sense of hurt about the lack of support after all I've done for the county."

Nolan said that he believes that despite rhetoric and lip service from heterosexuals supporting gay candidates, there's a "lavender ceiling" in politics and openly gay and lesbian candidates who try to get elected to higher office face serious hurdles.

"It's an awful thing to say, but I believe that and it's sad," he told the Bay Area

Reporter.

Nolan isn't sure what he's going to do next, he said. His seat on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors expires in January and he believes that he will probably move from the district.

Relocating with his partner to San Francisco is a possibility.

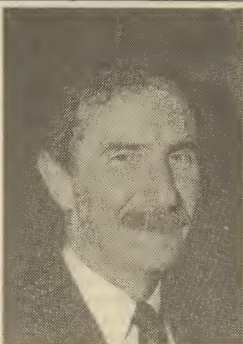
"We're not starting with any real limitations or assumptions, but in the short term we're facing a campaign debt that I'm committed to taking care of," he said.

The debt is an estimated \$35,000 and Nolan's campaign organization will hold fundraisers to pay the bills.

"I hope the Democratic National Committee will help. They've suggested they might," Nolan said.

Nolan is also considering future career plans.

"If I had my way, it would be something vaguely service



Tom Nolan may relocate to San Francisco.

oriented and socially meaningful, probably in the AIDS or social service fields," he said. "But there's also the possibility of municipal finances, but things are open ended."

"I'd like to thank the lesbian and gay community for their support and all the people who helped in my campaign. I'm determined that the next person who runs for Congress will have an easier time because of what I've learned and I'll pass on to them how to avoid some of the mistakes," he said. ▼

4 Sailors, 2 Marines

Grand Jury Indicts Suspected Bashers

by Dennis Conkin

Four sailors and two U.S. Marines involved in a gay bashing in front of the Phoenix bar in February were slapped with grand jury indictments on charges of assault with deadly weapons and hate crimes.

The move follows several months of procedural delays in the case of the service members stationed at Mare Island.

U.S. Navy service members Ryan Eldred, 19, Christopher Hall, 18, Mark Parker, 23, Hans Dykes, 19, and U.S. Marines Kent Wheeler, 20, and Albert Schwartz III, 20, are expected to appear in court on June 26 to enter pleas in the case.

The indictments stem from a Feb. 17 incident at the Phoenix bar when Hall and

Eldred approached a gay man, whose name has not been released, shortly after midnight and started a conversation.

One of the assailants left the bar but the other stayed and continued to talk to the victim and then sexually solicited him, according to the District Attorney's Office.

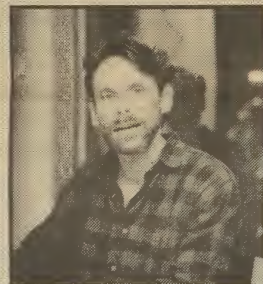
The pair then left the bar to go to the assailant's supposed place of residence. Unbeknownst to the victim, he had apparently been set up and was trailed by the remaining assailants.

"As they left the bar and went out on the street, the guy who had left the bar earlier appeared and they all went down to 19th Street to a house. As the solicitor acted like he was trying to open the door, all the guys jumped on

(Continued on page 20)

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DA Testifies For Needle Exchange

by Dennis Conkin

District Attorney Arlo Smith appeared before the state Assembly's Health and Human Services committee on June 24 to testify in favor of AB 2525, a measure legalizing a needle exchange program in San Francisco. The needle exchange is part of a comprehensive program, including drug treatment access, research and monitoring by the San Francisco Department of Public Health. The bill by Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, D-San Francisco, is co-authored by state Senator Milton Marks, D-San Francisco. ▼

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Community News

Gays, Lesbians Not Covered In Fire Dept. Hiring Quotas

by Dennis Conkin

A gay man who applied to become a firefighter after the San Francisco Fire Department recruited in the gay and lesbian press earlier this year says he is concerned that he's not considered a minority for hiring preferences.

The Fire Department has been operating under a consent decree issued in 1987 by U.S. District Court Judge Marilyn Patel that requires the department to have specific affirmative-action goals in hiring.

"I saw the ad in the Bay Area Reporter that the Fire Department was looking for lesbian and gay recruits" he said.

The individual has requested anonymity because he is in the middle of the hiring process with the department.

The man says that when he applied for the position, which requires a written and a physical agility test, he tried to tell the department that he was a sexual minority — but the department didn't want to

hear it.

"I was told that I couldn't state in any way that I was gay and that because of the consent decree there would be no oral interview and candidates would be judged strictly on the results of the two tests and because of their minority status," he said.

"The department is under a consent decree by the federal judge," said Therese Madden, the Fire Department's affirmative-action specialist.

The decree required that 500 women, members of African-American, Hispanic, Asian and other ethnic minorities be hired between 1985 and 1995.

To meet the affirmative-action goals the department needs to hire another 150 members of these groups, Madden told the Bay Area Reporter.

The department has an estimated 1,450 employee positions.

"Sexual orientation is not a protected class under the consent decree," Madden said, but the Fire Department,

like the rest of all city agencies, has non-discriminatory hiring policies.

The recruitment drive in the lesbian and gay community is an indication of the department's effort not to discriminate in hiring, Madden said.

The department's projected annual budget will be \$135 million for the next fiscal year, according to Assistant Deputy Chief Bob Demmons of the Management Division.

Demmons told the Bay Area Reporter that the department plans to hire 48 firefighters next year, 24 in January and 24 in April.

Supervisor Carole Migden told the Bay Area Reporter that her office was "aware of and monitoring the department's recruitment of gay and lesbian employees" and said that although the department is bound by the consent decree in hiring, civil service reform is needed to ensure that sexual orientation is considered a minority status in hiring. ▼



Women Walking Tall

At a summer solstice celebration at Lake Merritt Park in Oakland, more than 60 women walked with their heads in the trees and their stilts on the ground. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Santa Rosa Hospice Targeted As AIDSphobia Rears Ugly Head

by Dennis Conkin

Neighbors objecting to a Santa Rosa residential care facility for people with AIDS "are overreacting," according to the director of the Sonoma County Health Department.

"Personnel from our department have met with neighbors and we have explained the circumstances and tried to do a little education about AIDS," said Mark Kostineley. "The neighbors are quite upset."

Residents of the area have objected to people with AIDS living at Henry House — a site that was previously a residential care facility for the elderly — on the grounds that there would be increased traffic and noise and other prob-

lems.

The site had been vacant for several months until it was leased for the program.

"I'm not sure what the controversy is," Kostineley said. "The facility has a license from the California state Department of Health as a residential facility and it was all done properly."

Kostineley told the Bay Area Reporter that a similar facility operated in a primarily commercial neighborhood in Santa Rosa and that there were never any questions or concerns about that site.

Four people with AIDS are currently living in the facility, which is expected to house about 36 PWAs a year.

"It's a facility for people with AIDS who have no oth-

er place to go and who are not sick enough to be in a hospital but are unable to care for themselves all of the time," Kostineley said.

The facility is operated as a joint project by a consortium of several social service agencies, including Face to Face, a Sonoma County AIDS service group.

Neighbors have vowed to monitor the site to make sure that it is in compliance with zoning and other regulations. Neighbors complained that they had not been informed that the home was a residential facility for people with AIDS until it opened and they were not consulted in the planning process. ▼

NAMBLA Issue Debated at Forum

by Rachel Timoner

Since a sensational series about NAMBLA aired in January on KRON-TV, the gay and lesbian community has debated the group's role in the wider gay and lesbian agenda.

Some people are questioning whether the North American Man/Boy Love Association is a legitimate member of the lesbian and gay community.

Some ask if "man/boy love" plays a part in the fight for gay and lesbian civil rights.

NAMBLA proponents argue that members' right to sexual expression deserves the same protection as anyone else's rights.

The controversy started when KRON sent an infiltrator into a NAMBLA meeting in the Potrero Hill public library as part of its series questioning whether NAMBLA posed a danger to children by meeting in the library.

Although many lesbians and gay men decried KRON's handling of the series, letters to the editors of lesbian and gay newspapers seemed to demonstrate a division within the community regarding NAMBLA.

About 150 people gathered in Eureka Valley Recreation Center June 20 for an open lesbian and gay community forum to debate the above

questions and the rights and responsibilities of men who love boys.

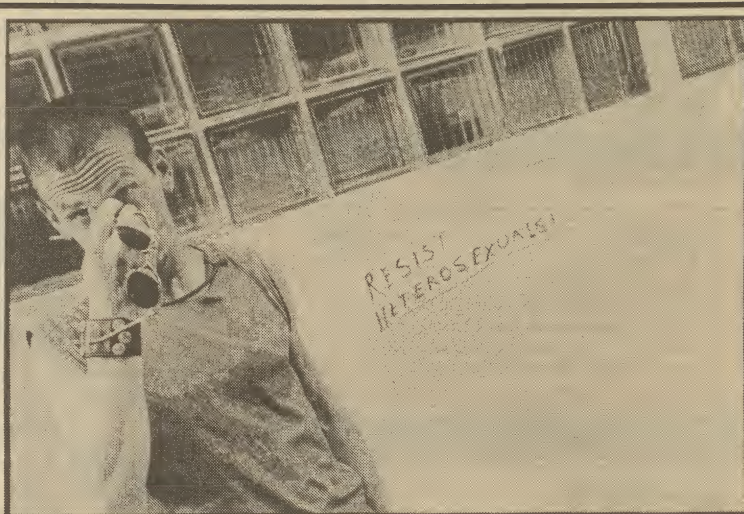
"It's common for the forces of fundamentalism to talk about protecting children, and (the concept of) protecting children has long been used to deny rights to all of us," moderator Mark McHarry said. "Can we draw a line somewhere to separate child abuse from man/boy love?"

The arguments against NAMBLA in the discussion focused on the effect adult-youth sex has on children.

"For years the lesbian and gay community has been burying our heads in the sand about NAMBLA," said Everett Denman, an opponent of NAMBLA's inclusion in the lesbian and gay community. "By ignoring it, it hasn't gone away. Consent is not only the ability to say 'yes,' but also the ability to say 'no.' The question is, can a 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-year-old actually have consent? Power relationships come into play. What we're talking about here is an organization that gets together to discuss child abuse."

"When NAMBLA was allowed into the parade, I felt threatened and sickened," said Wendy Hays, a survivor of child sexual abuse. "I will not accept my abusers as my equals. They fool many into seeing this as a civil rights issue instead of what it is: sex-

(Continued on page 33)



Gay Graffiti

An unidentified man finds that the writing is on the wall.

(Photo: Gideon Hirsch)

Reply to Attack on Textbooks

by Rachel Timoner

Project 21, the GLAAD-affiliated organization working for fair and accurate representation of gays and lesbians in California's textbooks, is calling for a full-scale letter-writing campaign from the lesbian and gay community.

On May 28, after an animated confrontation between lesbian and gay activists and

right-wing fundamentalists, the state Curriculum Commission unanimously approved a framework for future health textbooks that includes the words "lesbian," "gay" and "sexual orientation" and calls for positive portrayal of lesbian and gay people.

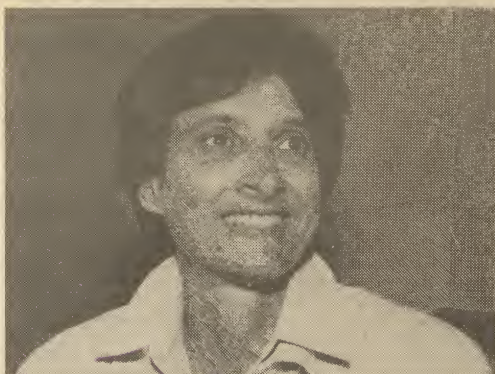
But the framework's next and final hurdle is the state Board of Education, which is composed almost entirely of

Deukmejian appointees, and which may consider the framework as early as July.

The Board of Education is under heavy lobbying from the religious right to veto the framework.

At the Curriculum Commission hearing, Lou Sheldon assailed the textbook framework as "a poorly veiled attempt to advocate and pro-

(Continued on page 31)



Mary Smith

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Film to Focus On Aging Lesbians

by David O'Connor

Johnnie Phelps worked on President Dwight Eisenhower's staff during the 1950s when she was asked to compose a list of homosexuals employed by the government.

Phelps, who had been closeted up to that point, told her boss that her name would have to appear at the top of such a list.

Rather than lose a valued and respected employee, Eisenhower scratched the list idea. But Phelps still was subjected to the government's attempt to "cure" her by attaching electrodes to her head.

Today, Phelps is 70 years old and one of the women interviewed for Los Angeles

film editor Mary Smith's documentary on aging lesbians.

"Laws will not ever eradicate discrimination because it's a mindset. The only way to fight it is to draw parallels and what we all share is feelings," Smith said. "These people were invisible at a time when it was illegal to be homosexual."

And many of these women continue to be invisible in mainstream culture as well as in the lesbian community because American society so prizes youth, Smith said.

"When do you get to exercise human rights?" Smith asked. "When do you get to be who you are? It's not OK to be gay, it's not OK to be

(Continued on page 33)

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Editorial

Happy Pride Week

As we celebrate the 23rd annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade in San Francisco, our focus turns toward the positive — our hopes and aspirations for better times ahead. Through the year we are faced with so much negative news — gay bashings, killings, lawsuits, political setbacks, losses of life and inadequate advances in the fight against AIDS — that it is important for us to, for at least one day or one week, leave all those depressing thoughts behind and party in the pride of who we are. We can only hope that in the coming years our struggles will be less strenuous.

To all of our out-of-town visitors we say welcome to San Francisco, still the center of the gay universe. From the staff of the Bay Area Reporter to each and every one of you, have a happy Pride day. Recharge those batteries, and brace for the fights yet to come.

And don't forget to fly your Rainbow flags. ▼

Guest Editorial

Message From Mayor Jordan

In the last six months many of us have taken risks together as we pushed forward on such controversial and important issues as needle exchange and programs to provide condoms in our schools. I think I have surprised a lot of you, or at least I hope so. A lot of people who didn't know me talked about me, even spoke for me in the days of the campaign. Campaigns are like that; campaigns are rough. And I often found myself defined as a person I didn't recognize and certainly would never want to be. But I won, which has given me the opportunity to prove myself otherwise, and that has been one of the great joys of winning an election.

The San Francisco lesbian, gay and bisexual community is bigger than the sum of all the people who live here and compose that community. It is a beacon for the world, a model for a future society where tolerance prevails and all women and men are truly equal. Many eyes everywhere, and especially in this country, look to us for the next step in the evolutionary struggle in which we all become more free.

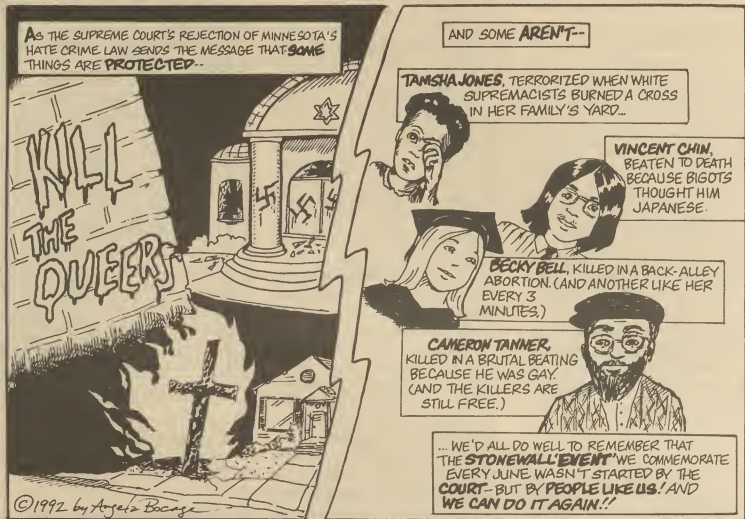
Ask anyone about San Francisco and they'll tell you it's where the lesbians and gay people live. I am very proud of that. So I'm mindful of my responsibility not just to this community, but to oppressed lesbians and gays all over the world, to uphold and strengthen San Francisco's reputation as the leader and innovator of civil rights, to continue to make this city the kind of place that attracts so many lesbians, gay and bisexual people.

When I went to Washington, D.C., to lobby for Ryan White Care money, when I cancelled an appearance before the Boy Scouts of America because of their odious discriminatory practices, when I worked hard to support Frameline in its struggle with a homophobic National Endowment for the Arts, I did these things aware of the responsibility I bore not only to this community, but to the ideal of dignity and justice and respect for all human beings.

This parade and celebration is a big part of what has made San Francisco San Francisco. It is something all San Francisco should be proud of. Few places can claim a history and legacy as colorful, as joyous and as important as our own. Today we march for ourselves, but we will also march for all those everywhere who can't. It's a simple matter of justice.

Congratulations.

Mayor Frank M. Jordan



Guest Opinion

Combatting Violence

Recently, Community United Against Violence has been the target of negative publicity in the press. The staff at CUAV has made it a general policy to try to distance itself from the personal attacks and mudslinging that occurs with such disturbing frequency in our community. However, we have decided at least on this occasion to speak out about our organization and the work we do.

CUAV is a nonprofit organization with a multi-racial staff of eight. Along with more than 150 volunteers who work with our organization, we run several programs that address issues of hate crimes and domestic violence. In the first quarter of 1992 we responded to 133 incidents of anti-lesbian/gay violence (this is an increase of 17 percent from the same quarter last year).

In the past year, our Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project doubled its services and provided support and assistance to 125 men who were being battered by their partner. We aggressively advocated for clients who wished to use the criminal justice system, helped obtain restraining orders for many men who live in fear of further violence, provided a support group for survivors, and did considerable outreach and training to community organizations and service providers.

We place considerable emphasis on prevention. As part of CUAV's effort to change young people's attitudes and outreach to lesbian/gay/bisexual youth, the Speakers Bureau provided educational presentations on lesbian/gay lifestyles to more than 3,500 students. We spoke to numerous organizations, agencies and college classes about hate violence. Safety monitors from CUAV helped prevent violence and reduce crowd problems at many community events. The sensitivity training we designed and provide for city police has now become a national model and we continue to advocate for our community on a city and state level with police and other

officials. Staff members have acted as consultants to lesbian and gay organizations, and to other communities that are also the target of hate-motivated attacks, to help them set up anti-violence projects and develop appropriate services. Each week, we answer innumerable requests for information about anti-lesbian/gay violence from the media, researchers, students and community organizations. We work closely with Street Patrol, in the past have offered many self-defense classes and plan to do so again in the future.

In addition to the programs mentioned above, we have continued to lobby for further funding to expand current services and create new ones. We completed a move from a cramped and unsuitable office to a more spacious and accessible space. This move to a more central locations is part of our effort to expand our services to all sectors of the lesbian and gay community. We are developing a multi-cultural/racial plan to ensure that people of color and women are better served by our agency; this includes the development of multi-lingual services for clients.

As a staff, we feel we are more than open to constructive criticism. In fact, we always encourage feedback from clients, volunteers, and other members of the community we serve. We are constantly striving to improve the services we provide but we are also proud of the work we currently do. As lesbians and gay men, we are as much the targets of homophobia and violence as anyone else in the community. We are committed to combatting hate crimes and domestic violence and that is why we do this work. We want to hear what people have to say about the organization and our priorities, but we feel very strongly that attacks on individuals or on our work are only destructive.

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Letters

Won't Attend Pride Celebration

It is with much regret that I will not be attending any "gay" rallies or celebrations this year. This is a difficult but conscientious decision born out of San Francisco's gathering a few years ago.

Back then, I was in spirit, but was dismayed and disgusted by a poster on center stage reading "PRO-SEX, PRO-CHOICE." These messages chilled me to the bone: one was the quickest way to spread AIDS and other STDs and the latter ignored the innocent unborn's right to live. I know that responsible, mature sex in proper context is fine, of course, and so are choices that are life-affirming or nondestructive, but I doubt that these were the popular interpretations.

We ally ourselves with many different worthy groups concerned with transforming our world, to increase our activist and voter bases. However, it is ironic that we emphasize the one that puts the mother at odds with her unborn child. Can we not honor both? Talking about my concerns with another gay friend who is involved with Gay Pride, he actually advised me not to go and so it will be.

At any rate, I still love my community on many levels, and will continue to be involved in the homo movement, helping to secure our rights and responsibilities, but not at this price. And despite my absence, you will still "find me where the heart is," trying to support life in all its forms: gay, women, unborn (and unborn lesbians) as well.

Berry West
Sunnyvale, CA

Thanks for Editorial

Thank you for your recent editorial on the Bill Clinton/Jesse Jackson/Sister Souljah flap. It amazes me how hard people in the liberal coalition are trying to tear down Clinton. I supported Jesse Jackson in '88, but now I wish I could take it back. If this keeps up, we'll be stuck with another four years of Bush and his "potatoe" head sidekick, or Ross "no homos apply" Perot.

Ronny Rodriguez
San Francisco

What Happened to Community?

What has happened to the gay community? Is it gay? Gay and lesbian? Bisexual? Queer? We're so busy arguing with each other or fighting and backbiting or ignoring that we've lost perspective. We sink into tiny interest groups who don't reach out or we simply come out of one closet only to go into another.

Many of us remember the Castro of the '70s. Yes, life goes on and death comes, too. We've seen much more than our share of death in the midst of youth. And we've been morbidly sidetracked from our quest for equal treatment in this country.

I'm sick of those making big bucks off of the dying. I'm disgusted with those who pretend to be our leaders who only live for power, lust and petty glory, lining their pockets along the way.

We used to have ideals. We had ethics and we had joy. We were free and we reveled in it. We had Harvey. But we always had pretend journalists and City Hall suck-ups and wannabes who played the game and made up the rules as they went. And they're still around. Some are younger and more openly crass with no memory of our history.

Some are angrier and more disillusioned but with their principles intact. And we're scattered and unfocused and that's precisely why the "old guard" still defines what gets said and who doesn't get heard.

We need a revolution within the revolution. As social movements institutionalize, new movements form. So? What are you waiting for? Oh, excuse me, you're probably kinda comfy. Don't rock any boats or you might get wet. Or worse.

Help you! You're melting!

Sadie, Sadie the Rabbi Lady
aka Gil Block
San Francisco

One Choice for President

Is there any doubt as to whom the gay and lesbian community should be working hard for in the presidential race?

The incumbent lines his friends' pockets with the wealth of the country while he acts like a rudderless ship without a clue as to where he wants to lead us. Meanwhile, his vice president panders to the neo-fascist churches, repeating their clichés about "traditional family values" as code words for bigotry, sexism and homophobia. The Republican Party has been swallowed up by the neo-fascist right wing, many of whom hide behind tax-exempt churches and military structures that have contempt for civil liberties.

A second candidate has emerged who seems to be all things to all people. Yet, a clearer image is emerging about this multi-billionaire. This is a man whom Oliver North turned to for help when he was caught trying to subvert our Constitution. This is a man who wanted to leave the Navy because it was too "godless." This is a man who has made the religious issue of adultery a campaign theme. And most chilling, this is a man who when asked by Barbara Walters for his opinion of gay rights, immediately started talking about AIDS. He also let slip that gays would not be

able to serve in high posts in his administration since we would be too controversial.

That leaves the third candidate, Bill Clinton. Gov. Clinton's record is sparse when it comes to human rights and social issues. But in this campaign, he has made many efforts to reach out for gay and lesbian support. He has publicly appeared before our forums and not ducked our issues such as ending the homophobia in our military. And unlike the other candidates, he understands that AIDS is a health issue and not an exclusively gay problem.

Like never before, the gay and lesbian community is under attack from the neo-fascist right. These fanatics are even trying to codify into law their bigotry such as we are seeing in Oregon.

Now is the time to stand and fight for our freedoms and rights. If we do not, we need only look at the history of Europe in the '30s to see what the future will be like for all of us!

Patrick A. Tifer
San Francisco

New Stonewall Liberation Day

I am a member of the New Stonewall Liberation Day's board of directors.

I was in charge of the women's stage and accessibility for the disabled.

We were granted a permit to hold this event, which would have had a main stage and a multilingual stage.

We wanted to include those of us who have been excluded and not represented at gay/lesbian events. We had planned to include people of color, fat people, disabled people, etc.

I am very dismayed that a few white men could ruin such an important event which would have included everyone and excluded no one! We would have provided not just fun, but we would have had a networking process for all to participate in this event.

I believe the city should be held accountable for granting us the permit and then allowing those few to destroy the democratic process which we participated in.

I urge all of our supporters and concerned people to write or call the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor's Office and demand that such a travesty will never happen in this city ever again!

Mary Gennoy
San Francisco

Betrayed Constituencies

Dick Hongisto's decision to run for supervisor makes a mockery of representative government. Just whom does he represent? After years of cultivating a liberal reputation, he blew it in a few short weeks by saying and doing things that are hard to explain and even harder to justify. Now he is the darling — hopefully, temporarily — of law and order types who were taken in by his get-tough posturing. An endorsement by Bill Maher confirms that Hongisto is off and running as a conservative standard-bearer.

Hongisto is neither conservative nor liberal. He has no political loyalties. By his willingness to take his constituency where he can find it, he revealed a lack of commitment to any values. That's frightening in an office seeker and dangerous in an officeholder.

The man is an opportunist and a hypocrite. Just a few months after he was elected assessor, he announced for mayor. When the Police Commission fired him, he tried to drum up sympathy about his pension. Yet, with his wealth, the money was obviously not the issue. He complained that he was being denied due process — no small irony given his contemptuous violation of the civil rights of others. If Hongisto is elected, he will not soon forget how the progressive community lined up against him.

As an income property owner, Supervisor Hongisto always abstained on rent-control votes — as did Carol Ruth Silver. Those abstentions were counted as "no" votes because a majority of the full board — six votes — are still needed to pass anything. And all the while he voted his own interest, he gave lip service to support for rent control, maximizing his political mileage. I once asked him how it would be a conflict of interest if he voted for rent control. He responded, unbelievably, that if he cast any vote on rent control, even in favor, he would be charged with conflict of interest and would have to defend himself at his own expense. (I asked him if a majority of the board owned income property, did that mean no action whatsoever could be taken on rent control. He said that under those circumstances, the law permits everyone to vote.)

In addition to highlighting his opportunism, his "inability" to vote on the important issue of rent control renders him, literally, unqualified to sit on the board.

Let's face it folks, the man is not indispensable. His egregious error in gutting the First Amendment revealed more about him than his prior three decades of public service — namely, that he cannot handle power. If District Attorney Arlo Smith had any guts, Hongisto would now be defending himself against criminal charges for his *Tricky Dick* prank of stealing the Bay Times — instead of affronting the public with his candidacy. Talk about chutzpah!

Hopefully, the electorate will repudiate him, as they did Joe Freitas and Carol Ruth Silver, two other officeholders who betrayed their constituencies.

Naphtali Offen
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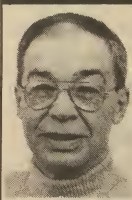
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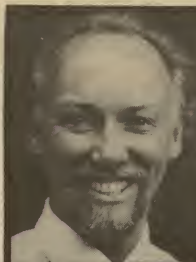
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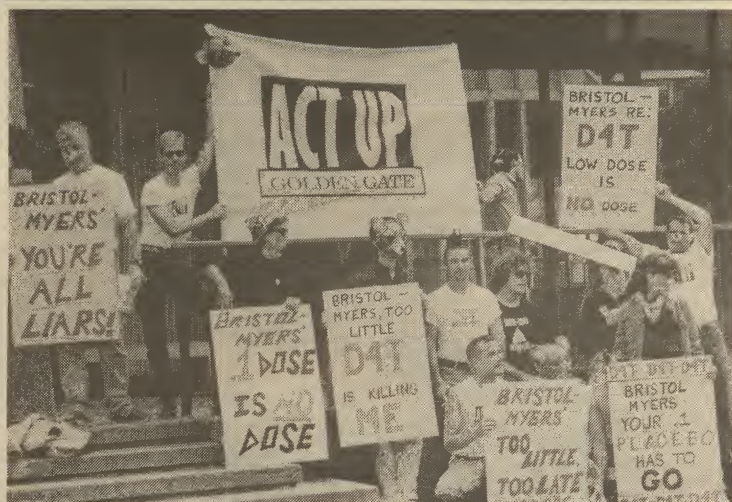
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Feature



ACT UP and activism itself have evolved as the epidemic continues.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

AIDS Activism Less Cathartic, More Effective

by Michael C. Botkin

ACT UP/Golden Gate recently zapped Hill and Knowlton, a local public relations company working for ASTRA Corp., provider — at about \$20,000 a year per person — of the vision-saving CMV treatment Foscarnet. It was the largest AIDS demonstration in the city for some time, rallying nearly 100 people at noon downtown on a business day.

The crowd was in high spirits, and wielded interesting props along the theme of "ASTRA blinds queers": eye patches, white canes, giant bleeding eyeballs, etc.

This demonstration offers a reasonable snapshot of the state of the movement. It was well organized and supported by both local ACT UP chapters, Golden Gate and its predecessor, San Francisco. This is an increasingly common occurrence. In fact, there are at least two "joint committees" that are working groups drawn from both chapters.

Activists had hoped to pre-empt the public demonstration with some civil disobedience by occupying the Hill and Knowlton offices. However, it appears that someone tipped off the target and they forestalled the action by drastically increasing building security. This, alas, is another increasingly common event. The good old days when a small mob of activists could saunter onto a stage while stunned scientists stood by and seize control of a conference (as happened in Montreal in 1989) are long over.

The Hill and Knowlton event got good coverage in the local alternative media, and some minimal notice in the local mainstream press: a quick video clip on Channel 5, a photo in The Examiner, at least one good radio interview.

It's difficult to say, at this point, what impact the demonstration had on its targets, Hill and Knowlton and ASTRA. Typically, public relations firms are very uncomfortable about getting caught in the public eye at all.

ASTRA has already

trimmed Foscarnet's price some (about 15 percent); if ACT UP can keep turning up the pressure — a very important if — ASTRA is likely to yield still more ground. Activism has shifted from brief, dramatic zaps and sudden reversals to a long, slow war of attrition.

Money and Muscle

Nationally and locally, the divergent drift of the "treatment activist" and "social activist" wings of the movement has continued but slowed down and seems to have lost much of its past urgency.

A long-expected split in ACT UP/New York, the granddaddy of chapters, didn't ever occur. But the Treatment Activist Group (TAG), a core of activists previously associated with ACT UP/NY's prestigious treatment and data committee, broke quietly away from the parent group to work on its own.

Unlike ACT UP/New York, which is a mass organization open to all, TAG is a small, invitation-only membership group. It used to be that the treatment issues types went off and did their research, but depended on the main body of the chapter to provide money, muscle, and organizational support. Now muscle seems less important, and the support services are frankly not worth running the gauntlet of "political correctness."

Why bother endlessly "processing" an action with a couple of hundred random activists, incidentally destroying any possible chance of taking the opposition off-guard, when a small, bold action can be done easier, faster, with more control and, very likely, just as much effect? If three dedicated activists with fax machines can drive a pharmaceutical corporation to distraction, why not just go off and do it, without asking anyone's permission?

The social activists, such as ACT UP/New York's main body and, locally, ACT UP/San Francisco, find these arguments elitist and short-sighted. The PWA Coalition Newsline, New York's HIVER

newsletter, recently questioned what it called the "Unholy Alliance" being proposed by TAG, which has suggested that the major pharmaceutical corporations get together to give TAG and AmFAR \$10 million to allocate for alternative treatment research. The article referred to TAG as the "Treatment and Data Mafia," and asks what compromises will be made to get this money.

But the critic makes a point of avoiding any personal attacks on the TAGers, and praises them as "deserving laurels for their exceptional work." The shrill denunciations of political incorrectness, so common one or two years ago, have faded. The tone is one of "disagreeing allies" rather than unreconcilable rivals.

Thus, as mentioned above, the increasing trend of cooperation between ACT UP/Golden Gate and ACT UP/San Francisco. No one, however, is suggesting that the two groups re-merge. While less urgent than they once were, the reasons for the split are still there, and the trend toward diversification remains unchecked.

A Complex Maze

In the early days of ACT UP, say from its founding in 1987 through the 1989 Montreal Conference takeover, the activist/mainstream conflict was a fairly monolithic struggle. There was only one ACT UP setting policy and debating treatment issues — the New York chapter — with the other groups following along while they got established. It was easy to declare a demonstration and get thousands of outraged queers on the streets, venting five year's worth of pent-up rage over the country's non-response to AIDS. Federal government and the pharmaceuticals were caught with their pants down, taken by surprise at the size and vigor of the movement.

The militant energy of ACT UP's heyday seems to have peaked around 1990 (or 1991, depending on where in the country you are), overflowing into and founding of

(Continued on page 16)

Center Offers Support For CMV Retinitis Sufferers

by Rachel Timoner

David Custead is blind. He suffers from CMV retinitis, an opportunistic infection that strikes more than 20 percent of people with AIDS, scarring the retina and causing vision loss.

"I went through a whole lot of yelling and screaming and kicking because I didn't want to go blind. But I went blind anyway," Custead says. "It's frustrating because you're used to doing things by yourself and you have to rely on other people to help you. Giving up control on your life is real strange."

He remembers being diagnosed with CMV retinitis in June 1990, and by July 1991 his left eye was totally blind. He retained some vision in his right eye for about another year, until just a few weeks ago, when he could not see at all.

But Custead says that as he was going through the past two years of frightening and isolating change, he found a place for camaraderie and understanding, in a support group specifically for people with AIDS suffering from CMV retinitis at the Rose Resnick Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

"I got referred to them when I first started getting real serious CMV retinitis, so I started going to the support group," Custead recalls. "I got mobility training, a white cane, and a talking clock. But the biggest thing is I got to talk to other people who were going through the process at the same time."

Tom Gaughan, a social worker with the center who facilitates the support group, says that the group was developed because the center started to see increasingly large numbers of people with AIDS affected by CMV retinitis, and now helps between 30 and 40 people with AIDS at any given time.

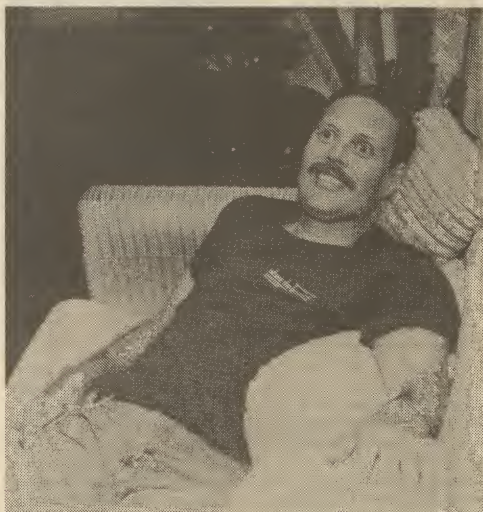
"I think the AIDS support group is very significant because it's the only one in the city that focuses on people with AIDS and sight loss. CMV retinitis is one of the infections that's most difficult for people with AIDS to live with and accept. That's why it's important for people to seek help," Gaughan says. "Some people really start to lose hope because going blind is a really scary proposition. But there is help, and people need to know about it."

Custead says that it's been the people he's met through the group that have helped him keep going.

"One guy was very matter of fact about it. He said, 'You'll lose the sight in both eyes.' Seeing his courage made me feel like maybe I could handle it," Custead says. "Now I can see new guys going through what I went through. I try to offer the experiences I had that might help them, but we all have to go through it ourselves."

He remembers his diagnosis with CMV retinitis as one of the most onerous experiences of his life.

"When somebody tells you you're going to be blind, you start thinking about all of the



David Custead: "You have to think about the things you can do ..."

things you're not going to be able to do ever again," Custead recalls. "But you have to think about the things you can do, maybe not as much as you did before, but you still can do them."

Custead has some advice for all people with AIDS: "If they start seeing floaters (little clouds) or flashing lights, people with AIDS should go to an eye doctor as soon as possible."

He says that early detection of the infection can make a big difference.

Gaughan says that the two drug options for people living

with CMV retinitis are ganciclovir and foscarnet, the latter of which is considered more effective. But foscarnet's makers, Astra Pharmaceutical, prices the drug at \$21,000 a year, which makes the drug out of reach for many who need it.

"It's so expensive that a lot of people are having trouble getting it," Gaughan observes.

And that's why the AIDS Action Council, Project Inform and ACT UP chapters around the country are pressuring Astra to lower foscarnet's price, so far without avail. ▼

Community Briefs

GAPA Conference Aims to Empower

Gay Asian Pacific Alliance will hold its first regional conference to address issues of AIDS, activism and leadership June 26-27 at the Miyako Hotel, 1625 Post St. "With/Out Consent: Building Foundations Toward Empowerment" will draw about 70 Asians and Pacific Islanders from across the country to talk about delivery of HIV services, strategies for activism and visions for the future. Conference participants will include representatives from the National Minority AIDS Council, National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, Gay Asian AIDS Project in Toronto, AIDS Intervention Team in LA and the Gay Men's Health Crisis. Also attending will be a group of lesbians and gays from Japan who are visiting San Francisco for the Pride celebration. Organizer Vince Sales said that GAPA is working on coalition building and planning a future national conference.

Open Hand Golf Tournament

Baseball great Willie Mays has joined the ranks of the many sports celebrities who will play in Project Open Hand's celebrity golf tournament June 29. The second annual Athletes Against AIDS Invitational Golf Tournament is hosted by Oakland Raider defensive back Jack Tatum and takes place at Green Hills Country Club in Millbrae. All proceeds benefit Project Open Hand. Other athletes in the tournament include Vida Blue, Tito Fuentes, Orlando Cepeda, Charles Johnson and George Atkinson. For more information about playing, call Linda Rawls at 225-2520.

HIV Volunteer Training Planned

The Most Holy Redeemer Support Group will sponsor a training for people interested in offering volunteer practical and emotional support to people with HIV. The training will be held July 11-12 and July 18-19. For more information and an application, call Michael Vargas or Patrick Belengue at 863-1581.

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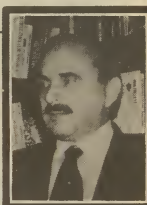
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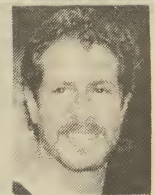
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Wayne Friday

Get Over It Rev. Jackson

Jesse Jackson is at it again. Apparently annoyed at himself for not entering the Democratic presidential sweepstakes when it appeared that President Bush was unbeatable, Jackson seems determined now to do all that he can to see to it that the party nominee, Bill Clinton, doesn't make it to the White House either.

It's the same old Jesse Jackson "rule or ruin" game, and it is beginning to wear very thin with Democratic Party officials who see 1992 as a chance to take over 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Never one to depend on when it comes to party loyalty, Jackson's latest "outrage" at Clinton comes at Clinton's more than appropriate remarks over a statement by popular rap singer Lisa Williams, known professionally as "Sister Souljah," who, in an interview with a Washington newspaper, discussed the recent Los Angeles riots by saying, "If black people kill black people every day, why not have a week and kill white people?"

While addressing Jackson's Rainbow Coalition conference last week, Clinton, with Jackson sitting nearby, criticized the organization for giving the white-hating rap singer a forum (Souljah had appeared at the conference the day before) at which Jackson welcomed her as though she were Coretta Scott King.

Clinton, clearly annoyed that Jesse had even invited the controversial "Sister" to share the same podium with him, told the conference that "her comments before and after the Los Angeles riots were filled with a kind of hatred that you do not honor today."

Clinton called the statement racist and inflammatory and went on to say that "if you took the words *white* and *black* and reversed them, you might think David Duke was giving that speech."

Jackson, who had referred to Souljah with pride only a few minutes earlier, expressed shock at the "very bad judgment" Clinton had made. It's been all downhill since. Jackson has since accused Clinton of pulling a "sneak attack" by making the comments and said that the statement revealed a very serious "character flaw" in the Arkansas governor that he, Jackson, cannot overlook.



The Rev. Jesse Jackson, wrong again.

For his part, Clinton, apart from saying that he still feels that "Sister Souljah's comments are racist and very divisive," prefers to let the issue rest, but admits that Jackson is keeping the issue alive and "each day the temperature has been turned up" (by Jackson).

Clearly, Souljah is *not*, as the L.A. Times says, "one of America's great thinkers about law and justice," but is smart enough to get herself injected into the presidential campaign, and thereby sell more hate/rap albums. But while it should not be doubted that Clinton's remarks were indeed calculated to make a point, his criticism was fair and Jackson should be big enough to sit down and shut up — not use the incident as a wedge or some kind of bargaining chip to kiss ass with the likes of Ross Perot.

Simply, it's Jesse being Jesse. Let him make the rules or he grabs his ball and takes a hike.

No doubt about it; Jesse is a player in the presidential picture. The man controls a large number of black votes in this country, or at least he once did. This year might just be different.

Anything short of Jesse being Perot's running mate (and that is *not* going to happen), it is doubtful that Jackson can actually deliver his voters to anyone other than the Democratic candidate this year. Clinton knows that. Where else can the Jackson loyalists (mostly black voters, that is) go? Certainly not ever to Bush; and with Perot sounding more and more like Pat Buchanan every time he opens his mouth, the Jackson voters *have* to go with

Clinton.

It is time that Jackson, with his good side as well as that all-too-present egomaniacal side, start acting like a team player and less like a spoiled kid who is suddenly on the outside looking in.

This is not 1988 any longer Jesse, and the convention next month in New York belongs to Clinton, not you.

The Democrats and Clinton have a real chance of winning this thing and sending Bush and homophobic hit man Dan Quayle into retirement. Jackson should stop playing his usual brand of spoiled-brat politics and help Clinton, rather than placing one self-serving obstacle after another in the path of a possible Democratic victory in November.

Jackson, incidentally, whose longtime commitment to equality for gays and lesbians cannot be questioned, went sideways on the issue, however, on an appearance on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Hinting that he might actually bolt to Perot if he doesn't get his way with Clinton, Jackson was asked how he could "even consider backing Perot in light of the billionaire Texan's declaration that he would not hire gays or lesbians for top-level government or administration jobs."

Jackson waffled all over the place on this one, and while he did manage to utter that he thought Perot's position was a "mistake," he clearly passed up the chance to challenge the independent candidate on the issue.

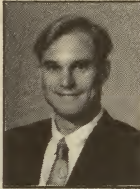
When pressed by the same reporter again about the gay/lesbian issue, Jackson fluffed over the question and quickly changed the subject.

Politics & People

Arlo: No to Lungren; Yes to Boxer. In a "Dear Arlo" letter dripping with "law enforcement" issues, state Attorney General Dan Lungren wrote to District Attorney Arlo Smith, a lifelong Democrat, last week urging the popular prosecutor to "join with me in supporting (Republican) Bruce Herschensohn for the U.S. Senate."

The letter, trashing Rep. Barbara Boxer, the Democratic candidate, for everything from her opposition to the death penalty to once having "supported Rose Bird," claimed that the right-wing Herschensohn "is needed in

(Continued on page 13)



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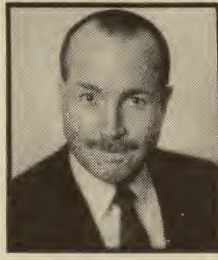


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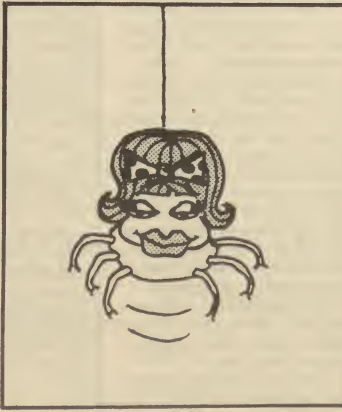
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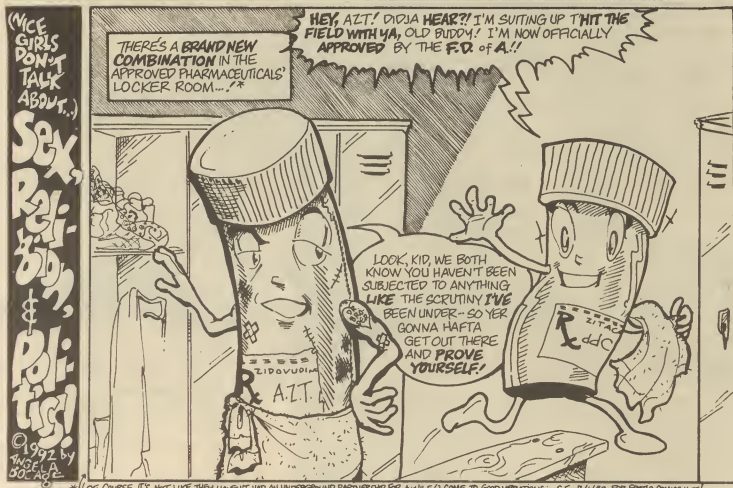
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ALEXANDER THE GREAT
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Queer Watch



Gays Place in Ancient History

by Michael C. Botkin

A recent curmudgeonly letter to the Examiner suggested that, because the city's Gay Pride Parade only serves to promote negative images of unsavory queers — pedophiles, semi-nude leather-nuns, dykes-on-bikes and such — we should cancel it altogether. This, presumably, would give a more accurate view of the "silent" majority of gays and lesbians who remain, quite properly, invisible.

Although posed as "friendly advice," the letter betrays the writer's just-below-the-surface agenda of locking the closet door and throwing away the key. We can't control how the media portrays us, so we should just go into permanent hiding and forget about ever changing things.

Alas, this dude isn't clear on the concept of "gay pride." We don't do these marches for the mainstream and its media whores, we do them for ourselves.

If he personally doesn't like the parade, maybe he should consider living someplace besides the Queer Capital of the Universe. Or he could simply ignore it; the American public had no trouble ignoring a march of nearly a million queers in Washington, D.C., just a couple of years ago. Instead he feels compelled to offer us his own nicely twisted rationale.

Logic has never been the homophobes' strong point. One dismaying sign of this is the recent resurgence of the classic homophobic argument: "homosexuality caused the fall of Greece and Rome." This simplistic view of history is based on vague Hollywoodistic images of obese Roman emperors lounging on couches while molesting slave boys and watching Christians being thrown to the lions.

Well, there is no longer any reason to sit by silently while someone promulgates such nonsense. A quick overview of the historical facts suggests the exact opposite — homophobia caused the decline and fall of both the Greek and Roman empires.

An Army of Lovers

The high-tide of ancient Greek culture occurred around 500 B.C., centered in Athens and the Aegean area. At this time homosexuality was fully accepted and, indeed, honored. It was the era of Sappho and Socrates, and

Athen's greatness seemed to go hand in hand with its celebration of gay (and, to a lesser degree, lesbian) romance.

Around 400 B.C. Athens turned the corner and began a precipitous decline. Socrates, their greatest philosopher, was condemned and executed (on charges of "corrupting the youth"). In the same period, the homo-friendly traditions were being replaced by new, snide, anti-gay fashions. So if you're looking for correlations, Athens was at its peak when it was pro-gay, and began its decline just when it tilted toward homophobia.

They were replaced as the dominant force in Greece by Sparta, the famous military oligarchy where all male citizens served in the army. The Spartan army was, at that time, considered an essentially all-gay force. It was assumed that much of their excellence derived from the solidarity inherent in "an army of lovers." Soldiers from other armies might be tempted to flee a doubtful outcome, but Spartans stayed on the field to defend their boy-friends.

Sparta enjoyed about 25 years of what we would now call "sole superpower status" before being trounced by Thebes. Taking the "army of lovers" theory to its logical conclusion, the Thebans founded the "Sacred Band," a regiment of paired-lovers. Only committed male couples could join the band, which they did by taking a religious oath together. Led by this invincible troop, the Thebans routed the Spartans and anyone else who tangled with them, and ruled the roost for a few decades.

Finally, the Sacred Band was crushed by Alexander the Great of Macedonia, just before he set off to conquer Asia. Considered the greatest general in military history, Alex was unabashedly queer, and publicly took a Theban Band-style oath with his lover Hephaestion. His career was the last display of vigor by the classic Greek culture, which soon after yielded political leadership to Rome.

In all these examples — Athens, Sparta, Thebes, Alexander — cultural and particularly military success was associated with queer-positive social norms, and decay was associated with the waning of the homosexual/warrior tradition.

This long and persistent

association of military excellence with homosexuality makes an interesting footnote, one our military would do well to heed. According to just-released statistics, in the past decade the U.S. military has spent half a billion dollars on replacing purged queers in the armed services (not including the costs of the witch-hunts themselves). This is despite the fact that a Pentagon-sponsored study, designed with no friendly intent, ended up proving that queer soldiers perform far better on all relevant measures than our heterosexual counterparts.

An army that spends a fortune on eliminating its best soldiers is, clearly, one headed for trouble. It shows one way homophobia can lead to decay and the collapse of civilizations.

Book Burners

Military homosexuality was less pronounced in ancient Rome, although Julius Caesar, another famous general, was bisexual.

(Actually, he was rumored to be omni-sexual, interested in anything that moves — men, women, boys, dogs, horses — under the right circumstances.)

If anything caused the fall of Rome, it was Christianity, not homosexuality. Again, the historical facts: Rome was at its cultural peak around 200 B.C., when the country was run by the Senate. Not only was it fairly pro-gay, but women had more rights than ever before in Western Europe (and more than they enjoy in many states in the contemporary U.S.)

Although women weren't allowed in the Roman Senate, they did control several important woman-only religious institutions (e.g. the Temple of Vesta), which gave them some general clout and provided a place where women could be guaranteed protection from men (as sexual harassment of a declared vestal virgin was blasphemy, punishable by death).

By the time of the birth of Christ, Rome — now run by military dictatorship — had passed its peak and was coasting on its muscle to control the world. Once again, social norms had turned against homosexuality, and against women's equality. By 200 A.D. Christianity was on the rise and, not coincidentally, Rome approached collapse, piloted by an authoritarian

(Continued on page 32)

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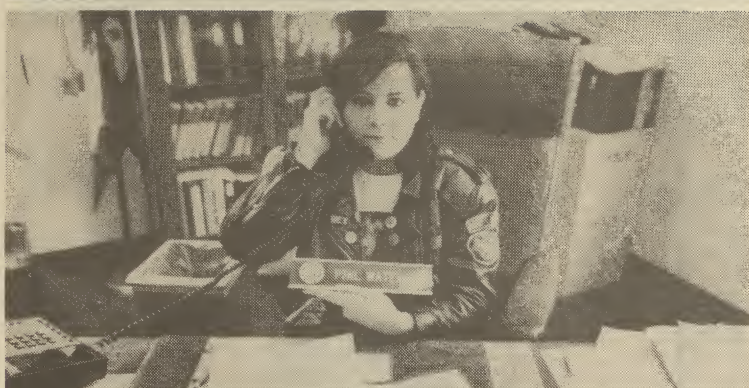
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Profile



Peggy Sue became more notorious when the Bay Times superimposed Richard Hongisto's mug on her body for the controversial cover photo that contributed to Hongisto's ouster as police chief.
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Peggy Sue Calling

One of the City's Most Celebrated Dykes Speaks Out

by Rachel Timoner

Best known for her affiliation with Bad Cop/No Donut, the queer, police-monitoring, activist organization, Peggy Sue has become something of a local celebrity for her playful determination to question authority.

"I want to play the edge, that's what I like. That's my calling, annoying the SFPD," the 22-year-old boastful dyke proclaims.

Although street activism is her passion, Peggy Sue mouthed off about a range of subjects, including her favorite topic: sex.

But for starters, how did she get that name?

"I hate my real name (which she refused to allow on record). I had a roommate in college, an anarchist straight boy, who had this fetish; he wanted everybody to be called Peg. So everybody started calling me Peg. I stole the name Peggy Sue from a drag queen. I like it. It's femmy, it's cute and it gets me dates," she explains mischievously.

And there's no question Peggy Sue likes to go on dates.

"I want to talk about fucking," she says, steering the conversation into her favorite territory. "The '90s is the decade of pro-sex — fucking all over the place. I want to know when lesbians are going to wake up and realize that fucking is good for them. A sleazy bar pickup and sex in the alley is better than five marriages.

"I want women to look at each other," she says. "I like cruising people. Women are trained to say 'no' every day of their lives. Their first response is to look down at the floor. Girls need to say 'yes' because safe sex doesn't hurt you. Thumbs up for fucking."

Although she had slept with women "on and off" since she was 16, Peggy Sue did not identify herself as a lesbian at first.

"Sex with men was fine, but mentally it was nothing. When I fuck I like to like or love the person. I think most straight men are disgusting and I want to stay away from them," she states. "But I thought I could never be a lesbian because lesbians are big, flannel-wearing, truck-driving, man-like women. Co-

incidentally, those are the women I like to fuck now."

By the time she was 18, Peggy Sue decided that having sex with straight men "wasn't cutting the mustard" and began identifying herself as a dyke.

"I chose this. I made the choice to be a big, fucking dyke. And I've never regretted it," she says. "I wasn't born this way. I made a conscious choice at age 18. To me, I'm that much stronger for it. My lesbianism is cultural. I love homo culture. Heterosexuality at best is boring and sterile."

Born in the Midwest and raised in Belmont, Calif., Peggy Sue attended UC Santa Cruz for two years before dropping out after the Loma Prieta earthquake and moving to San Francisco.

"The first time I came to the Castro, it was home," she says. "Gay men were my entire life. I was a big bag hag when I first moved here. My best friend from high school was an out fag, and he influenced me a lot. Gay men have been my support always."

To this day, she says she identifies more with gay male culture than lesbian culture, especially when it comes to sex.

"I am not a dyke's dyke," she says. "Lesbians are much less sex-positive than gay men are. There's a valid form of self-love in casual sex, tricking, S/M, butt fucking. It's a way of showing love for your body and someone else's body. I don't have the time or energy to marry everybody I do it with."

Only a few months had passed since the Oct. 6, 1989 police riot in the Castro when Peggy Sue first moved to San Francisco. The police had painted over a spray-painted quilt on Castro Street and a small crew of activists decided they would paint it once again.

It was Peggy Sue's beginning.

"I remember being so scared and so excited and so high. It was in my blood. That, to me, was better than going out dancing, drinking, whatever. That's how I have a good time. This is not work for me," she says.

"I've been looking for something all of my life. Right now that's (working against) police violence. I

choose not to work through conventional means. I'm very lazy. I don't like to do a lot of work, phone calls, bullshit. I like to slap something down on the sidewalk. Seeing something on the street — it's like a living memory," she says.

Bad Cop/No Donut sprang out of the October 1989 events and although it's been fun and productive, Peggy Sue's involvement hasn't been without it's consequences.

"My dealings with the police have been singled out. They went to my mother's house with four squad cars and implied I was a violent criminal," she remembers. "They showed up under cover at my house in the Castro and sat outside waiting for me. They didn't arrest me that time. Once they held me all day for a spray-painting misdemeanor charge. They took all of my clothes, my jewelry, my shoes. I could have gone to jail for six months for spray painting."

"That made me really review my chosen form of activism and think about how dangerous it is. But I just have to be smarter, more inventive. They gave me a taste of what power is like, because I've got to have it or they wouldn't have gone after me," Peggy Sue smiles.

So what exactly does Bad Cop/No Donut do?

"Just various things around town," she responds evasively.

But if she is not prepared to talk about the group's work, she is more than ready to describe the parties.

"It started when we threw Capt. Cairnes a retirement party in the Castro and several thousand people attended. Every year we have an Oct. 6 memorial bash, a 'remember what's up' street party."

And then there's the shoe burning party, when Bad Cop/No Donut finally put Mayor Jordan's confiscated footwear to rest.

"I held up the loafer and 2,000 people went apeshit," she says. "We burned the shoe on top of a funeral pyre of donuts."

But on the serious side, Peggy Sue is overwhelmed by the tragedy and injustice that surrounds her.

"I'm 22 years old. My friends should not be dying," she says. "I feel like I'm too

(Continued on page 32)

Friday

(Continued from page 10)

Washington" because of his "longtime commitment and consistency on tough law and order issues."

Smith quickly replied to his one-time election opponent (Lungren defeated Smith for attorney general in 1990 by only 27,000 out of 7 million votes statewide) and pointed out that "Herschensohn, like yourself," has a record of opposing equal rights for gays and lesbians, is anti-abortion, and is a wide-eyed, right-wing conservative.

Arlo concluded that "it should come as no surprise to you that I strongly support Barbara Boxer — and Dianne Feinstein for the U.S. Senate this November."

Supervisor Carole Migden, who also serves as chair of the SF County Democratic Party, was re-elected recently to the powerful 230-member Democratic National Committee.

Why was I not terribly surprised to read in a recent Newsweek story on the first lady that Barbara Bush, who, despite her public persona of being compassionate toward AIDS patients, is *thought* to be pro-abortion (though that is certainly not clear), and places an occasional candle in the White House windows to commemorate those who have died of AIDS, among other things, is really *not* a friend of our community.

The Newsweek story goes on to say that "just as the president uses Dan Quayle to reach out to the party's right wing, he understands Barbara's appeal to moderates."

"Privately, however, Mrs. Bush sometimes sounds more like Quayle, and though she would not say so publicly, with friends she denounces gay promiscuity." (Well, were we to really expect anything? After all, she is a Republican.)

In Raleigh, N.C., the Pullen Memorial Baptist Church last week reaffirmed its decision to bless a gay union even though it cost the congregation its membership in the Southern Baptist Convention. Last week the Baptist group OK'd a resolution expelling Pullen and Olin Binkley Memorial Baptist Church in Chapel Hill for ordaining a gay minister (no wonder Jesse Helms recently had a near-fatal heart failure).

Bill Clinton says he would pick New York Gov. Mario Cuomo to sit on the Supreme Court the first chance he gets. If I were Clinton, I'd pick the guy for vice president.

Supervisor Willie Kennedy is still wiping the egg off her face over her scatterbrained idea of urging amnesty for all looters involved in the Rodney King aftermath. Even some of her colleagues were snickering at this one.

Incidentally, in last week's column on the supervisorial race, I neglected to mention candidate Sue Bierman. Now there's a woman with real brains who deserves to be elected (see ya later, Willie!).

Longtime gay/labor activist Howard Wallace will spearhead a large labor contingent in Sunday's Gay Freedom Parade. SEIU (Service Employees International Union) donated \$1,000 for the first-time labor contingent float ever in the parade. ▼



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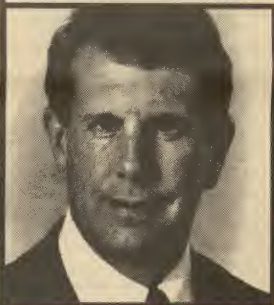
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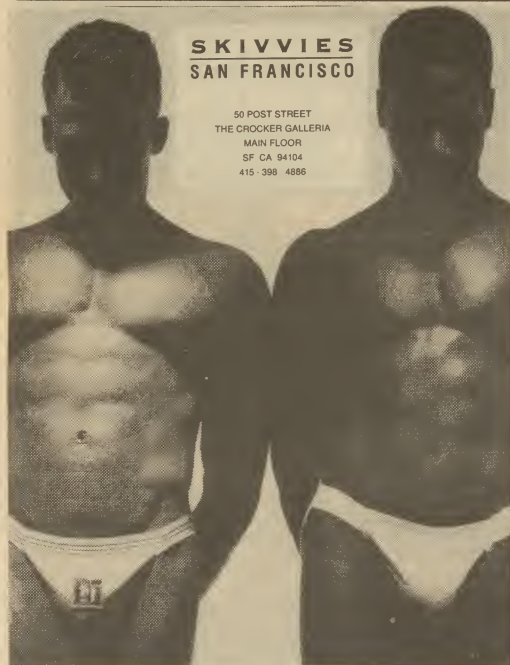
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California News

Perot Meets With Homosexuals, Names Liaison to Community

by Karen Ocamb

LOS ANGELES — Undeclared presidential candidate Ross Perot met privately with a handful of lesbians, feminists and a gay publisher during his late June swing through Southern California. They came away with very different impressions.

"He truly is not homophobic," said Debra Olson, the Perot supporter who arranged the meeting after being shocked by news reports of Perot's comments on ABC-TV's "20/20" show.

Olson, a real estate financier, said that although she "went crazy" when she heard reports about Perot's remarks, she wasn't as shocked when she actually saw the program.

Perot told Barbara Walters that he would be reluctant to name a gay or lesbian to his Cabinet and that having gays in the military was "unrealistic."

Olson said she organized the meeting because "my friends and I wanted to know what he really thought, unfiltered through the press."

Olson has since been named the official liaison between the California Perot campaign and the lesbian and gay community with which she hopes to encourage dialogue.

A similar meeting with lesbians and gays in San Francisco had been canceled because of a lack of time. But, after much pushing, the Irvine meeting took place.

"There's no question he's from the old school," she said. "But he's willing to learn, to change, and he's creating a committee to advise him on these issues."

Advocate Publisher Niles Merton came away with a favorable impression.

"If he were a knee-jerk dinosaur, anti-gay and anti-woman, he would not be open to the possibility of having gays in the military," Merton said. "What's important is that we're dealing with a quick, subtle, intelligent and flexible man."

Attorney Diane Abbitt, an ardent supporter of Democratic presidential contender Bill Clinton, found Perot to be "a nice man" but "very patronizing," particularly on the question of appointing lesbians and gays to the Cabinet.

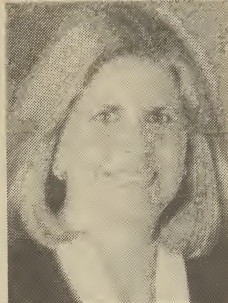
Also attending the June 18 meeting, which was held in Irvine following a Perot rally there, were Olson's life partner, Kay Cole, who manages a prominent real estate office, as well as feminist real estate developer Linda Rappaport; attorney Gloria Allred, and Peg Yorkin, chair of the board of the Fund for the Feminist Majority.

Yorkin has long been interested in starting a third party.

The group first met for about an hour with Morton Meyerson, one of Perot's three top aides. Perot spent an hour with the group after that.

It was "good news" that the meeting took place at all, Abbitt said, but she said she was "distressed that this meeting was not made public and was not held with identifiable community leaders."

"He clearly has no under-



Debra Olson, Perot's liaison to California's gay and lesbian community

standing of our issues and I'm disappointed in his unwillingness to make any commitments," Abbitt said.

Clinton, she points out, has been meeting with lesbians and gays since the beginning of his campaign, has open gays on his campaign staff, and has said that he will appoint gays to his Cabinet as well as sign an executive order lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military.

Abbitt pressed Perot about his comments on appointing gays to Cabinet positions. Perot said that when Walters asked him that question "he had a mental vision of poor Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill and how no one should have to go through that and how he wanted to protect people," Abbitt said. "I told him I thought that was very limiting and that I would prefer to at least be asked. Then he looked at me and said, 'Diane, how about if I appoint you secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet — knowing the scrutiny?' I said that I thought it was much more respectful to me to be asked and that worked for me. I think he understood."

She, however, dismissed his reply as "very patronizing."

"I cannot depend on a benevolent patriarch to take care of me," she said. "I'm a grown-up. We have a right to sit at the table, a right to participate and be treated as equals."

When Abbitt asked Meyerson whether Perot would be willing to sign a commitment letter addressing certain specific issues of importance to the gay/lesbian community similar to one signed by Clinton, Meyerson said, "That's not Ross' style. Ross is more inclined to present you with his platform and welcome your support and votes."

However, Meyerson did tell Merton that he would study the Department of Defense report that indicates that homosexuals are not a hindrance to military service.

Merton pursued Perot's point of not wanting to have the country get "bogged down in controversy" regarding a prospective gay Cabinet appointment. Merton noted that controversy had died down quickly after The Advocate revealed that Defense Department spokesman Pete Williams is gay.

According to Merton, Perot looked at him and said simply, "You're right, Mr. Merton."

Before Perot came to the meeting, Meyerson said Perot

was committed to equality and meritocracy, Olson said. He would run his administration like he runs his computer business where he has a non-discrimination policy and people advance through merit.

"Meyerson said that Perot would hire and propose people for positions of authority within the government without regard to gender, religion, sexual orientation, race or creed," Olson said. "That's the spirit of what he said."

Meyerson also told stories of how employees would go into Perot's office and say they suspected someone of being gay. Perot reportedly said "that's not important or relevant. Go back to work," Olson said.

"Mort (Meyerson) actually did a strong pre-meeting meeting," Abbitt said. "He said that Perot did have a meeting in Dallas with a group of gays and the group made certain demands on the Perot campaign. But he wanted us to know that Ross does not trade votes for positions."

"So what that he doesn't have everything written in stone about gay and lesbian issues — he hasn't given it much thought," Merton said. "The important thing is he has a vision of what America should look like. What he said is 'I have no problem with gays. I've had gay people working for me all my life. That's their business.'"

Meyerson reiterated the Perot stance of not taking positions when Abbitt asked if Perot would sign an abortion rights bill if Congress passed such a law if Roe vs. Wade was overturned.

The abortion issue was then passed over until Perot arrived and Yorkin asked him about his stand on parental notification. Perot is a strong supporter of abortion rights but "he will not budge on parental notification," which he supports, Merton said.

After the meeting, Perot accepted a videotape from Yorkin about parental consent.

Merton told Perot that the country needed a Manhattan Project to end the AIDS crisis.

Part of the problem, Merton told Perot, is the pharmaceutical profiteering and that the huge bureaucracies at the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health "are not imbued with a sense of emergency."

Merton said that Perot has a list of Dallas-based AIDS advisers. But Merton suggested that Perot needed advice from such nationally known AIDS experts as Dr. Joel Weisman, a co-founder of the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

"He is open to us assisting him and creating a competent team," Merton said.

Merton said he has offered Perot a platform in The Advocate to discuss his views of gay and lesbian issues.

"He's not going to pander to every little group that comes along," Merton said. "And we are a little group. We're smaller than the Jews. But the fact that he's willing to have this meeting indicates that he's serious and educable on our issues." ▼

Civil Rights Bill Stirs Little Interest

by Rachel Timoner

An incarnation of AB 101 could be on the governor's desk again this September, but very few people at the grass-roots level seem to be doing anything about it.

AB 3825, Speaker Willie Brown's Civil Rights Restoration Act, which includes gay rights protections in housing and employment, has passed the Assembly and is in the Appropriations Committee of the Senate. If it passes out of committee on June 29, the bill will be voted upon by the entire Senate by the second week in August, and Gov. Pete Wilson will have until Sept. 30 to sign or veto.

The bill would give California the strongest civil rights laws in the country by overturning four recent decisions by the California Supreme Court that limit the remedies available to victims of discrimination, as well as enforcing new protections from discrimination for lesbians and gays, women, people of color, the elderly, non-English speakers, the disabled and the poor.

But those watching AB 3825 through the process are worried. First of all, people at the grass roots just don't

know about it, and therefore haven't been doing much to influence the outcome.

That's why activists from the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, the Lavender Greens, LIFE Lobby and the Non-Partisan Alliance are planning an educational campaign for San Francisco's Freedom Day Parade.

"We discussed starting a postcard campaign, but we decided that most people haven't even heard about it. The first step is to inform people," Brett McDonnell, an activist organizing the campaign, said.

"It's so important and it encompasses so much, but people don't know about it. It doesn't have anywhere near the visibility that AB 101 had," Ken Bukowski, another organizer, said.

Aside from the widespread ignorance about the bill, LIFE Lobby and lesbian and gay activists fear the bill could lose by one vote in the Appropriations Committee, unless the committee chair, Sen. Robert Presley, D-Riverside, decides in favor of the omnibus measure. ▼

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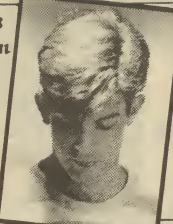
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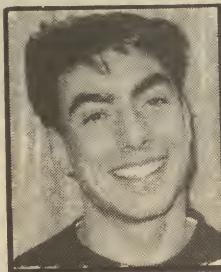
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Activists

(Continued from page 8)

Queer Nation chapters on the way. That tide has ebbed, and it's nowhere near as easy to get out the troops as it used to be. Faced by dwindling numbers, and by growing and increasingly savvy opposition, activists had to find new ways to get things done.

In all aspects of the war on AIDS, the number of players has multiplied logarithmically. What used to be played out as a number of one-on-one confrontations (ACT UP vs. federal government, ACT UP vs. drug companies, federal government vs. drug companies) has now become a complex maze of allies, opponents and interested neutrals.

Instead of just one evil pharmaceutical corporation (in the early days usually Burroughs Wellcome, currently activist-friendly) there are now a plethora, including all the major international drug companies and a number of newly formed small, aggressive biotech outfits.

While the old ACT UP chapters are universally smaller than they were two years ago, there are probably twice as many now as there were then. Instead of just one Treatment Issues cell there are now at least a half-dozen research/activist groups scattered across the nation with the "critical mass" to deal with government agencies and pharmaceutical corporations (perhaps half of these are groups that split from or walked out of parent ACT UPs; the rest are committees still happily affiliated with their local chapter). Overall the number of identifiable "ACT UPers" is probably way down from two years ago; but the contemporary activist is more likely to be an experienced and dedicated member of a small and focused group.

Nor has the federal government failed to grow and diversify in its efforts to take on the AIDS virus. A number of established agencies, departments and bureaucracies, initially disinterested in this messy disease, have become involved, and of course a completely new structure, the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG), was established. The ACTG alone has nearly a dozen committees, all gently (or not) jostling each other in the quest for money, power, and prestige. Some research is coordinated by the National Institute of Health; but the National Cancer Institute is now also involved. If that's a drug you're researching, you should contact the Department of Biomedicine; but if it's an herb you need to talk to the Department of Biologics; if you're not sure you'd better check with both.

Three People and a Fax

All this diversification, if nothing else, has promoted a shift toward negotiation, at least among treatment activists. There are so many interests in the field that anyone should be able to find an ally in it somewhere. Often more than one corporation is working on a specific treatment, which makes it impossible to pull off the price gouging common when there's no competition.

The pharmaceutical companies remain leery about sharing info with activists, for fear that we will spill secrets to their competition; but this doesn't inhibit them from pumping us vigorously for dirt



Activists occupy the lobby of the state Insurance Commission during a tour of "SF Model."

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

on the opposing team's product. Many scientists consider treatment activists useful as "cross-pollinators" between the secretive drug companies. Fear of demos, or of bad public relations screwing up their all-important stock market values, has motivated the drug companies to negotiate with activists instead of stonewalling, as they did in the beginning. Several corporations now assiduously woo activists, flying them out for

While the old ACT UP chapters are universally smaller than they were two years ago, there are probably twice as many now as there were then.

conferences with high-level executives and scientists.

In short, the entire playing field has changed. In the old days, stereotypically, brief but large actions quickly resolved limited conflicts. You'd go down to the ACT UP meeting, where all the activists just happened to be hanging out; the Evil Pharmaceutical Corp was denounced, and the meeting boiled over into the streets. Pressed against his office window sill by the angry mob, the CEO would agree to cut the price of his treatment in half. The jubilant activists would go off to celebrate while the shaken CEO cradled his head in his hands and wondered how he was going to get by on a mere 500 percent mark-up. This parody is somewhat dramatized, but extend the time period out to a few months and it represents the old ideal of AIDS activism.

Now action is more likely to be undertaken by a much smaller group of activists working over a long period of time; the "three people and a fax" ideal. Three people with a fax machine can accomplish a lot, given time, information, and allies. Three people can found a newsletter, or block a piece of deadly legislation, or pressure a drug company to release a treatment they've

been holding up their sleeve (until it's profitable, or patented).

ACT UP/Presidential Project is a social activist example. It is a few crackerjack activists with a highly developed public relations machine touring the country and recruiting local activists for small but highly visible zaps of presidential candidates. Certainly they have more impact than one large demonstration in a rust belt city could.

ACT UP/Golden Gate's AIDS Drug Program working group is a good local example, on the treatment issues side. A few people working consistently for almost two years implemented a major expansion of the HIV treatments that the state of California will pay for. They researched; they wrote letters; they lobbied legislators; they organized informational pickets; they built a powerful consensus in the state-appointed review committee; they met with bureaucrats (now that's dedication!). Finally, due to the undeniable logic of their request (since giving HIVers needed drugs keeps them out of hospitals, which is far more expensive) they triumphed. The two-year process didn't include a single mass demonstration.

The situation of the AIDS activist movement is certainly not encouraging. Research funds have been cut, just when a number of new treatments have become available for testing. Treatment funding is stable, which, given the likely annual doubling of the HIVers needing care, amounts to a drastic reduction. The circus-like election atmosphere has virtually driven AIDS from the news, and dread of economic collapse undercuts lobbying attempts.

But there is some reason to hope that the tide will turn. A growing and increasingly experienced cadre of activists continue the struggle, and despite underfunding and poor coordination, the slow grind of basic research on HIV is finally beginning to get somewhere. The current slump is unlikely to last forever — but each delay costs lives. Activism nowadays is less cathartic, but perhaps more effective, than it used to be. ▼

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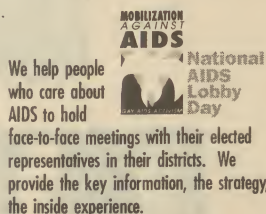


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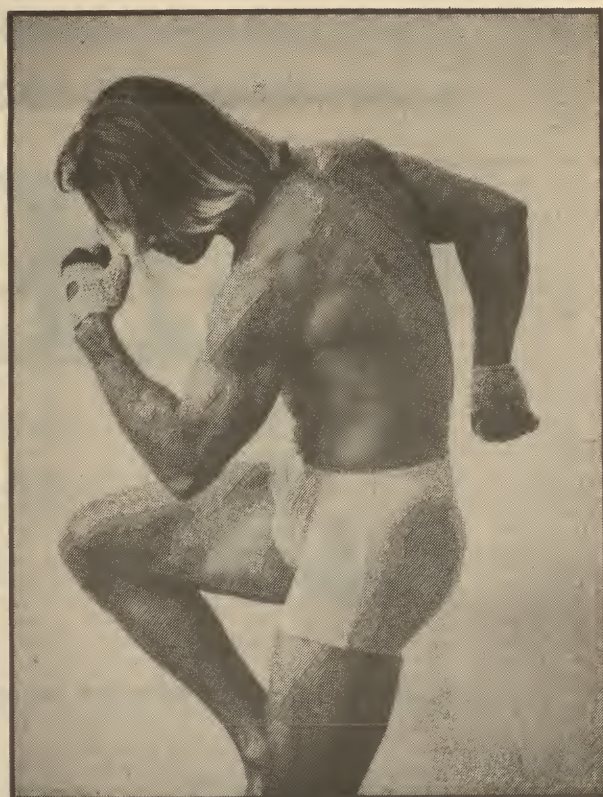
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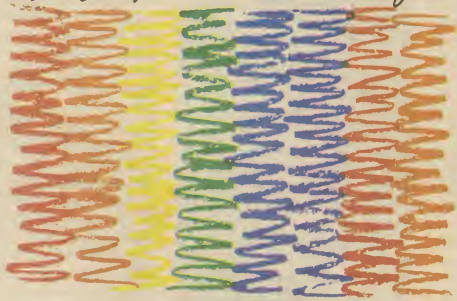
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National News

Hate Crimes Statute Struck Down

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court June 22 said "hate crime" statutes that outlaw cross-burning and other expressive action if they are aimed at angering minorities violate the First Amendment's freedom of speech protection.

The court, by a 9-0 vote, struck down a 1989 St. Paul, Minn., law that made it a misdemeanor to engage in biased-motivated disorderly conduct by speech or action that might arouse "anger, alarm or resentment in others on the basis of race, color, creed, religion or gender."

It also implicates similar laws in dozens of towns, and a type of legislation that has split the civil rights community.

The case involved a 17-year-old white male prosecuted under the act for burning a cross in the yard of a black family.

The teen's lawyers said while burning a cross in someone's yard may violate trespassing and even assault laws, the hate-crimes ordinance is unconstitutional because it targets motivation — not action.

A district court agreed, but the Minnesota Supreme Court said the statute could be "narrowly interpreted" to cover only those actions not protected by the First Amendment.

Minnesota's highest court said burning a cross in public symbolized "virulent notions of racial supremacy," and that the statute could be narrowed to outlaw only "expressive conduct that amounts to 'fighting words,' or conduct 'directed to inciting or producing imminent lawless action and is likely to incite or produce such action.'"

The Supreme Court said even such a narrowing construction does not allow the law to pass constitutional muster.

"We conclude that, even as narrowly construed by the Minnesota Supreme Court, the ordinance is facially unconstitutional," Justice Antonin Scalia wrote for the high court. "Although the phrase in the ordinance, 'arouse anger, alarm or resentment in others,' has been limited by the Minnesota Supreme Court's construction to reach only those symbols or displays that amount to 'fighting words,' the remaining unmodified terms make clear that the ordinance applies only to 'fighting words' that insult, or provoke violence 'on the basis of race, color, creed, religion or gender.'"

Scalia noted that under the St. Paul law, those who used fighting words against others — homosexuals, for example — could not be prosecuted because sexual orientation was not listed as a triggering factor. ▼

Fourth Amendment Violation

Gay Man Can Sue Over Forced Test

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court June 22 let a San Diego man pursue his lawsuit against police officers who forced him to give blood so they could check for HIV, after he allegedly bit them during an arrest at a Gay Pride parade.

The court, without comment, let stand the decision of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that the city of San Diego and five of its police officers must face a lawsuit charging they violated the constitutional rights of Brian Barlow.

Barlow claims that police violated his Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure when they required him to donate a blood sample — without first obtaining a search warrant — out of fear that he could be carrying the AIDS virus and may have transmitted it to them.

A federal judge in California initially granted summary judgment to the city and the officers involved, finding before trial that they were entitled to qualified immunity from prosecution for their actions.

The 9th Circuit, however, said it should be up to a jury to decide in this case if the ac-

tions were those that a "reasonable" police officer would have taken, and thus that the officers are excused from any wrongdoing.

On June 7, 1986, Barlow was marching in a Gay Pride parade in San Diego when he was arrested for knocking down a sign carried by an anti-gay heckler.

During the arrest Barlow allegedly bit two police officers, piercing the skin and drawing blood.

Barlow was asked if he had AIDS. According to the city, he replied, "For the officers' sake, you better take it that I do."

Barlow refused a police request to provide a blood sample, but at the police station the officers drew blood anyway prior to obtaining a search warrant.

Later, when a search warrant was obtained, they got another blood sample.

According to the 9th Circuit, neither sample ever was tested for HIV.

Barlow was tried and acquitted of charges in connection with the incident, and then filed suit against the police on charges of excessive use of force, lack of probable cause, and violations of his Fourth Amendment rights. ▼

Catholics Back Job Equality

by Dennis Conkin

The results of a Gallup Poll of 800 Roman Catholics released on June 17 revealed that more than three quarters of those surveyed believe that lesbians and gays should have equal employment rights.

However, Catholics were evenly split over the acceptability of lesbian and gay sexual relationships with 45 percent of those surveyed agreeing that such relationships were "morally acceptable" and 49 percent believing they were not acceptable.

The poll has a 4 percent margin of error.

"The survey results are encouraging to all of us who are working in the church on acceptance of its gay and lesbian members and for more compassionate AIDS ministry," said Kevin Calegari, Dignity/USA president, in a press release.

Calegari said that the result of the poll "contrasts dramatically with church teaching, which rejects relationships for gay and lesbian people and holds that all sexual activity is objectively immoral."

The survey of American Catholic opinion was conducted last month and the results are based on a telephone poll of 8,092 Roman Catholic adults, 18 years of age or older.

More than 80 percent of those polled also agreed that U.S. Roman Catholic bishops should approve condom use to prevent the spread of AIDS. Some 10 percent agreed with the bishops' position that condom use is immoral.

The figures show that support for equal job rights has grown steadily among Catholics since 1977 when a Gallup Poll showed that only 58 percent of Catholics supported equal job rights. ▼

Bashing

(Continued from page 3)

him," Assistant District Attorney Ken Cady told the Bay Area Reporter.

The victim screamed and the bashers scattered. Eldred and Hall were arrested shortly after the incident and a search revealed both to be in felony possession of daggers.

Further investigation led to the arrests of the other assailants.

The suspects were also

charged with felony hate crimes violations and face up to four years if convicted of assault charges. The defendants can also receive up to four additional years in prison and fines if a jury finds them guilty of the hate crimes charges.

Assistant District Attorney Chuck Haines, head of the Hate Crimes Prosecution Unit of the District Attorney's Office, told the Bay Area Reporter that he sought grand jury indictments in the case after months of delays. ▼

k.d. lang Comes Out In Advocate Interview

by Rex Wockner

Singer k.d. lang finally came out of the closet in the June 16 Advocate.

She said the only thing that held her back before is the impact it will have on the life of her mother, who lives in a town of 650 people in Alberta, Canada.

"That's why I've always hesitated to be really, really out," lang said. "I'm still worried about this article, you know? It's taken me a long time to say yes to The Advocate because I know the repercussions are going to be there."

"It's like I want to be out," lang said. "I want to be out! Man, if I didn't worry about my mother, I'd be the biggest parader in the whole world."

lang said she told her mother privately she was a lesbian in 1979.

Despite her comment about wanting to be a "parader," lang said earlier in the interview that she does not feel "political" about her sexual orientation.

"I don't want to be out like (singer) Phranc is," she said. "Because that's not the thing to me. I don't feel political about my preference. I just don't. I'm sorry! I'm sorry to disappoint you hard-cores, but I don't!"

"I think as a human being we all feel discrimination at some time; we all feel oppression," she continued. "There should be strong examples in



k.d. lang

the subculture, and I think there should be people fighting for our rights. But I don't feel like it's my passion. I feel like it's a part of my life, my sexuality, but it's not — it certainly isn't my cause. But I also have never denied it. I don't try to hide it like some people in the (music) industry do."

lang said she didn't want her coming out in The Advocate "to be a big deal ... I don't want to sit here and talk about it, although we are," she said. "Because it's just like if I spent my whole conversation with you talking about (my) vegetarianism."

"The people who like me, like me for my music," she said. "And that's the way I want to keep it." ▼

Dole Launches Tirade Against Gay Program

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kans., launched into a vitriolic attack June 12 against a gay and lesbian television variety program, falsely suggesting that it was financed with federal tax dollars.

Dole made his statements as part of his ongoing criticism of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which is partially financed with federal dollars.

A prominent critic of publicly financed TV and radio broadcasts, Dole has urged that Congress do away with PBS, arguing that it only presents "far-out liberal themes" for "liberal cheerleaders."

"It seems that the broadcasting apologists are hiding behind Big Bird, Mister Rogers and Masterpiece Theatre," laying down their quality smoke screen while they shovel out funding for gay and lesbian variety shows," Dole said.

The show in question, "In the Life," is an independently produced gay and lesbian variety and information show, originating out of WNYC in New York.

The program was produced by John Scagliotti, winner of two Emmy awards including one for his acclaimed documentary "Before Stonewall."

"According to USA Today, it is like an 'Ed Sullivan Show' for gays," Dole said. "And it is coming to your living rooms on June 23. ... (I) s this the kind of programming taxpayers and public TV contributors have in mind? I do not think so."

Dole charged that the show was one example of the kind of "far-out liberal" themes that PBS puts on with federal dollars. Brushing aside arguments for continued funding for the agency, Dole sarcastically asked, "Is this the kind of entertainment Americans cannot live without?"

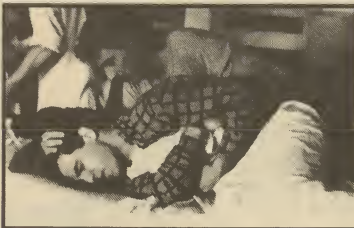
Dole also suggested that the show would be broadcast up to 12 times a month when the program will actually be produced on a once-a-month basis.

The New York station responded to Dole's criticism June 17 with a sharply worded statement noting that neither federal nor contributors' funds were used to finance the project.

The station did provide a \$2,500 loan for the pilot program, but notes that the money has been paid back in full. Funds for the show were provided by several charitable foundations and private individuals.

"'In the Life' presents gays and lesbians in a non-stereotypical and considerate

(Continued on page 22)



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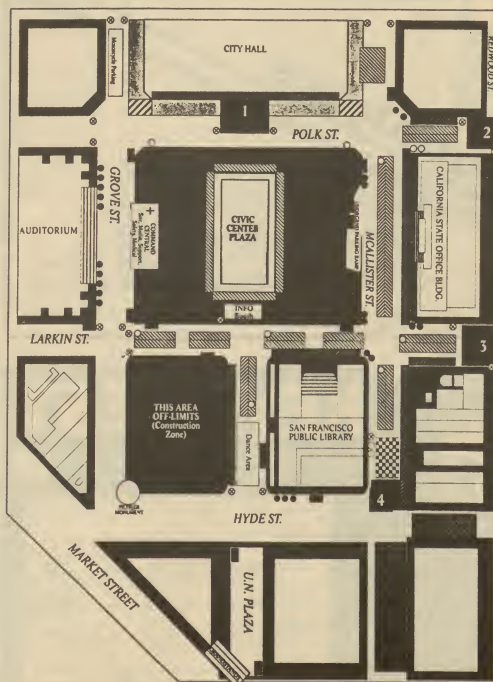
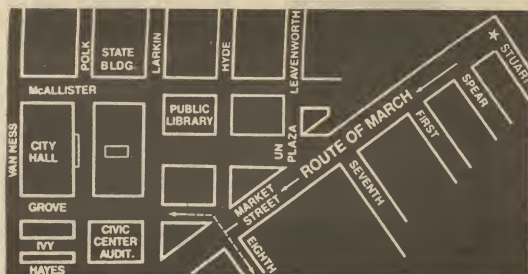
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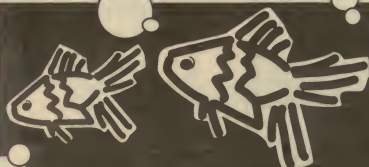
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Bay Reporter

Nation Briefs

NGLTF Addresses Platform Panels

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Deputy Director for Public Policy Peri Jude Radecic attended the Republican National Committee platform hearings in Salt Lake City in May after being denied a spot to testify. Along with other groups frozen out of the RNC hearings, Radecic was relegated to an "overflow" room but she managed to deliver written testimony to Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah. Prior to the RNC shut-out, Radecic attended the Democratic National Committee platform hearings May 18 in Cleveland. "Previous platform committees have responded to (gay and lesbian) concerns by recognizing our right to live free of discrimination," Radecic told the committee. "In 1992, the gay and lesbian community seeks more than simple recognition. We seek a platform that will lead the Democratic Party on all policy matters that affect the lesbian and gay community."

Episcopalians Extend Health Benefits

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark acted this week to extend dental insurance coverage to partners of its lesbian and gay priests and lay employees, making it the first diocese within any mainline Protestant denomination nationwide to extend such benefits to same-sex partners. Late last year the Rev. Karen Murphey, a lesbian priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, tried to enroll her domestic partner in the diocese's health insurance plan. After being refused enrollment because she and her partner were not legally married, Murphey pushed the diocese to arrange for coverage in light of its policy, and the national policy of the Episcopal Church, to affirm principles of non-discrimination based on sexual orientation. Following negotiations, the diocese decided to extend dental plan coverage in its 130 churches.

N.Y. Co-op Accused of Discrimination

In an effort to expand on recent rulings of the New York City Human Rights Commission, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund has filed a domestic partner discrimination complaint with the commission against the board of directors of a cooperative apartment building that refused to permit a lesbian to transfer ownership shares to her former domestic partner. The co-op board allows married residents to transfer their shares to each other without board approval. Lambda represents Irene Sullivan who purchased the Brooklyn, N.Y. apartment with her former domestic partner in early 1990. Though they decided at the time not to include Sullivan's name on the title, both women shared equally in the purchase price and agreed that they would own the apartment jointly. Nearly two years later Sullivan and her partner decided to separate. When they advised the co-op board of their desire to transfer the shares to Sullivan's name, the board told them that the transfer could not take place without board approval and that approval would not be granted. Board approval is not necessary for a transfer between spouses. The board has since begun eviction proceedings against Sullivan.

Safe Sex Weekend in Des Moines

DES MOINES, Iowa (UPI) — Des Moines staged Safe Sex Weekend June 20-21 and at least five saloons gave away a bonus with every drink — a free condom. Safe Sex Weekend was the brainchild of Jay Pattee and Jerna Madero. They said the condom giveaway did not promote sex, but focused attention on the importance of safe sex. The participating bars — Sneakers, Baby's, Doc & Eddy's, Poco Loco and the Plaza Pub — gave away nearly 10,000 prophylactics emblazoned with their names. They also distributed brochures and posters about AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, along with T-shirts and other prizes.

Cracker Barrel Restaurant Targeted

MILWAUKEE (UPI) — Queer Nation protested a Cracker Barrel Restaurant in the nearby town of Bristol June 21 in opposition to its hiring policies. The Cracker Barrel Restaurant chain does not hire gays and lesbians and has fired gays that were already working for the chain. "Not only is Cracker Barrel policy immoral, but in Wisconsin it is illegal as well," Queer Nation leaders said.

Dole

(Continued from page 21)

manner to the community at large," said WNYC Communications President Thomas Morgan in a prepared statement. "It covers the arts, politics, health and entertainment in a variety/magazine format capturing the talent, excitement and contributions of gays and lesbians."

Although the station is making the show available to public stations around the country, PBS is not associated with the program.

"Sen. Dole's implication is that gays and lesbians do not pay taxes or work hard for their money," Scagliotti, the program's producer, said. "I'm

sure that the 25 million gays and lesbians who live and work in the United States would strongly disagree."

Rep. Ted Weiss, D-N.Y., also jumped into the fray, inserting comments responding to Dole's attack into the Congressional Record June 17.

Drawing comparisons to the Red Scare of the 1950s, Weiss called Dole's comments reminiscent of the McCarthy hearings of the Cold War era.

"(The message of (Dole's) comments is very clear," Weiss said. "Gay men and lesbians are not Americans. That makes me sad. That makes me angry. Must I now fear that the time is not far off when the Congress convenes a new Committee on Un-American Proclivities?"



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- 25-26 All-Gay Rafting South Fork American River (Mariah)

▼ AUGUST

- 8-16 Pacific Northwest—Seattle and Victoria BC (Toto)
- 10-25 Thailand Tour: Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Pattaya (Tours to Paradise)
- 13-22 Fiji Islands Gay/Lesbian Scuba Trip (Undersea)
- 21-29 Canadian Rockies/Banff (Toto)
- 22 All-Women Rafting Middle Fork American River (Mariah)

▼ SEPTEMBER

- 4-14 France—Luxury Barge Trip and Paris (Toto)
- 7-14 All-Gay Greek Isles Cruise (RSVP)
- 7-22 Greece Tour (Royal)
- 11-27 Bali Brother-Spirit Journey (Explore)
- 13-20 Carnival "Jubilee" Mixed Cruise—Mexican Riviera (Royal)
- 14-21 Olivia Women's Cruise to the Greek Isles
- 15-20 "Grand Ole Opry" Tour (Royal)
- 16-25 Spain Tour: Ibiza Island and Madrid (Exclusively Gay)
- 16-26 Greece Tour: Mykonos and Athens (Exclusively Gay)
- 18-22 Munich Leather Weekend (City Bound)
- 21-30 Bangkok, Hong Kong Shopping Spree (Jan Duvall)
- 25-10/3 Boston & Fall Foliage Tour (Royal)
- 25-10/11 Bali Brother-Spirit Intensive/Workshop (Explore)
- 26-10/3 Belize Live-Aboard Dive Boat Trip (Undersea)
- 30-10/4 Sydney and Beyond, Including Sleaze Ball (Explore)

▼ OCTOBER

- 3-17 Red Sea Diving and Ancient Egypt Tour (Undersea)
- 5-20 Thailand Tour: Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Pattaya (Tours to Paradise)
- 9-12 AIDS Quilt Display, Washington, D.C. (Collette)
- 10-17 Atlantis at Club Med Sonora Bay
- 21-28 Theatre Week in London (Jan Duvall)
- 25-11/1 Puerto Vallarta Tour (Royal)
- 25-31 All-Gay Halloween Windjammer Cruise (Advance/Damron)
- 29-11/2 Halloween in New Orleans (Toto)
- 29-11/6 Brazil Tour: Rio de Janeiro (Exclusively Gay)

▼ NOVEMBER

- 1-7 All-Gay Windjammer Caribbean Cruise (Advance)
- 1-15 Argentina, Brazil, Chile Tour (All Destinations)
- 2-19 Thailand Tour: Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Pattaya (Tours to Paradise)
- 5-18 Orient Tour—Thailand, Hong Kong (Royal)
- 10-23 Great Barrier Reef Live-Aboard Diving Trip (Undersea)
- 21-28 Wind Song Tahiti Thanksgiving Cruise (Now, Voyager)
- 25-29 Thanksgiving Fiesta in Acapulco (Advance/Damron)
- 30-12/11 Thailand Tour: Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Pattaya (Exclusively Gay)

▼ DECEMBER

- 21-1/4 Thailand Tour: Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Pattaya (Tours to Paradise)
- 23-27 Christmas Disney Celebration in Orlando (Advance/Damron)
- 26-1/6 New Year's in London and Amsterdam (Jan Duvall)

▼ JANUARY '93

- 9-16 All-Gay Costa Rica Adventure (Mariah)
- 20-2/6 Australia Tour, Including Melbourne Warehouse Party (Explore)
- 20-2/7 New Zealand Tour, Including Heroes Party (Explore)
- 23-30 Gay Ski Week in Aspen (Holidaze)
- 31-2/12 Mystic India Tour (Jan Duvall)

▼ FEBRUARY '93

- 1-16 Thailand Tour: Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Pattaya (Tours to Paradise)
- 13-20 Olivia Women's Cruise to the Mexican Riviera
- 14-21 All-Gay Caribbean Splendor Cruise (RSVP)
- 17-25 Brazil: Carnival in Rio (Exclusively Gay)
- 19-26 Carnival in Rio (Jan Duvall)
- 21-3/14 Sydney Gay Mardi Gras and New Zealand (Explore)
- 27-3/6 International Gay Ski Week, Chamonix (Holidaze)

▼ MARCH '93

- 5-21 Bali Brother Spirit Journey (Explore)
- 7-14 All-Gay Caribbean Adventure Cruise (RSVP)
- 27-4/3 All-Gay Mexican Riviera Cruise (RSVP)
- ▼ Gay Whitewater Rafting Charters American River (Mariah)
- ▼ Gay Hawaii Vacation Packages - Go Anytime (Pacific Ocean Holidays)
- ▼ Gay Vacations: Australia, New Zealand & South Pacific (Explore)
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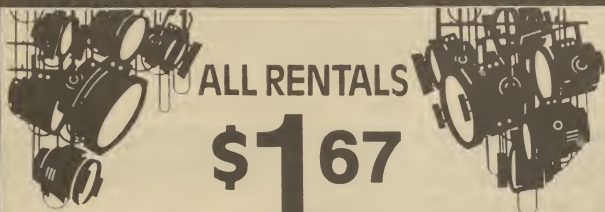
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National News

Sheldon Targets D.C. Partners Law

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — The Rev. Lou Sheldon, the leader of the ultra-conservative Traditional Values Coalition, has targeted the District of Columbia's recently enacted domestic partners law in a direct-mail appeal to his supporters, saying the measure "threatens the family."

"If the Congress does not disapprove of the (D.C. domestic partners) act, then it will be party to the demise of the family in America," Sheldon wrote in his appeal.

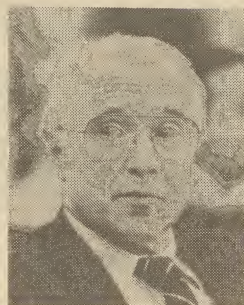
The local measure, formally called the Health Care Benefits Expansion Act of 1992, went into effect in mid-June with the failure of a House measure to block its implementation.

The law will allow same- and opposite-sex couples living in the city to register as "domestic partners" and will cover the partners of city employees under the district's health-care insurance.

While the measure does not apply to private employers, it offers tax benefits to those that follow the city's example. The law covers both romantic and platonic partnerships, including relatives living together to share expenses.

The D.C. law is modeled after similar measures already on the books in more than 25 municipalities nationwide.

In his letter, dated June 1992, Sheldon urged supporters to send him pledges of monthly donations ranging from \$15 to \$100 under the



The Rev. Lou Sheldon, spreading falsities.

premise that the money would be used to help stop the D.C. measure before the end of Congress' 30-legislative-day review period.

Although that period expired in mid-June, efforts to kill or curtail the local measure are expected in the full House and Senate later this year.

On Sheldon's pledge form, respondents could also place orders for any of three books on homosexuality and politics penned by right-wing authors, including Rep. William Danenmeyer's anti-gay treatise "Shadow on the Land."

The conservative Orange County, Calif. minister further sought to rouse his constituents in his appeal by suggesting that the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a D.C.-based gay and lesbian lobbying group, has "pledged \$4 million to lobby Congress to support the Homosexual Domestic Partners Act," a false claim also printed on the letter's envelope. ▼

Police: Man Guns Down Ex-Wife's Lesbian Lover

United Press International

PHILADELPHIA — A man celebrating Father's Day with his daughter at a crowded restaurant shot and killed his ex-wife's lesbian lover after spotting them at another table, police said June 22.

"It was an alternative lifestyle dispute," said Detective Michael Gross. "Apparently his machismo was insulted."

Santiago Pedrosa, 41, drove off after the Sunday night shooting at the Hathaway Inn and is still at large.

Delores Alvarez, 41, who police said was a California resident, was shot four times in the head and was dead on arrival at Medical College of Pennsylvania.

It all started about 7:30 p.m. while Pedrosa was having dinner with his 17-year-old daughter, who lives with her mother, at the busy restaurant. According to police, Pedrosa was surprised to see his ex-wife, Maria Gomez, 44, in the restaurant with Alvarez.

Witnesses told police Pedrosa and his daughter left the restaurant and when they returned a few minutes later, Pedrosa was holding a handgun.

Then, as other diners watched in horror and his daughter screamed for him to stop, Pedrosa walked up to the table where his wife was sitting and pumped four bullets into Alvarez, police said. "He didn't say a word,"

**"It was an
alternative
lifestyle
dispute.
Apparently
his machismo
was insulted."**

Gross said. "He just executed her."

Police said Pedrosa fled in his black Dodge Daytona with New Jersey plates.

Gross said the Cuban-born Pedrosa lives in Philadelphia, operates a small incense and herb business, and travels frequently to New Jersey and California. ▼

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By Evan Hughes

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For the gay men and women who have made this beautiful desert resort one of the most popular gay destinations in the world, the flawless summer climate virtually guarantees golden tans, shorts and tanktop days and balmy, starlit evenings.

Palm Springs has come into its own as a gay holiday mecca during the past few years. Always popular with the celebrities of the nearby movie capital and the rest of the world's "beautiful people", the name of Palm Springs is now synonymous with gay travel and year-round fun in the sun.

This is particularly true in the summer when the super-dry air temperatures remain comfortable even as they frequently rise above 100 degree mark.

Getting to Palm Springs.

By air with service by most major air carriers, Palm Springs Regional Airport is only one mile from downtown. By car Ontario International Airport is a scenic one hour drive. Los Angeles International is only two hours. San Diego and John Wayne Airport in Orange County are only a slightly longer drive.

Super Activities

Palm Springs in the summer is not just for sun-worshippers. Options for shopping, sightseeing and entertainment are endless. The Oasis Water Park brings the ocean to the desert. The active can challenge themselves on countless tennis courts and golf courses. There's hiking in the nearby Joshua Tree Monument Park. Horseback riding, jeep tours, balloon rides and the famous Aerial Tramway 8,500 feet to the peak of Mount San Jacinto lure the adventurous.

Great Food and Bars

When the sun finally disappears behind the mountains, the many gay restaurants, bars and discos beckon. No two gay clubs or bars in Palm Springs are alike. Sip martinis in a piano bar or swagger in western gear in a "corral". Watch magnificent young men wrestle in whipped cream. Join in country and western dancing (lessons provided) - or just disco the night away.

Palm Springs Makes Gays Feel Welcome

In this day and age, many gays very properly wonder about their safety and whether they will be welcome when they travel. In Palm Springs, gays (both visitors and the huge local contingent) lead a relaxed life secure in the knowledge that they are accepted and welcomed, not merely tolerated.

Thirty Gay Hotels

Superb climate aside, one of the main reasons for Palm Springs' huge success in attracting gays from all over the world is the high standard of accommodation, restaurants and nightlife.

As the respected International Gay Travel Association urges everyone to "Go Gay and Stay Gay", the nearly 30 gay hotels in the desert satisfy every taste - from the simply elegant to the frankly sexy. Banded together now in the Palm Springs Gay Tourism Council, the hotels make sure that gay travelers don't have to "make allowances" as in the past. The hotels offer standards of cleanliness, housekeeping, catering and special individual attractions which rival those of the mainstream hospitality industry.

Shopping and Entertainment

Shopping in the Palm Springs area is a delight. Fashionable boulevards are studded with internationally - renowned shops and boutiques. In nearby Palm Desert, beautiful El Paseo Drive rivals L.A.'s Rodeo Drive for glitz, glamor and quality - whether it's a tiara or a T-shirt that's in demand.

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HIV News

Singer-Songwriter Peter Allen Dies

United Press International

NEW YORK — Academy Award-winning singer-songwriter Peter Allen, the lanky Australian whose stage presentations were enlivened by his energetic dancing about the piano, died June 18 of an AIDS-related illness, a spokesman said. He was 48.

Allen died in a San Diego hospital of "an AIDS-related illness," said his personal assistant, Bruce Cudd, who issued an announcement through a public relations firm in New York.

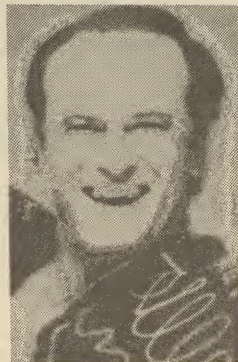
Allen's compositions included the Grammy Award-winning "I Honestly Love You," recorded by fellow Australian Olivia Newton-John; "You and Me (We Wanted It All)," sung by Frank Sinatra; and "I Go to Rio." His signature theme was "Quiet Please (There's a Lady on Stage)."

He recorded 11 albums. Allen began his career singing in the pubs of Tenterfield, Australia, at the age of 5. He first appeared on Broadway in 1970 in the show "Soon," with Richard Gere and Nell Carter. Soon after, he started songwriting full-time.

He wrote the Oscar-winning theme of the Dudley Moore-Liza Minnelli film "Arthur." Christopher Cross recorded the song about being "caught between the moon and New York City."

Allen married Minnelli in 1967, when she was 21. The couple divorced in 1970.

Allen once attracted 10,000 to a Central Park concert and played many sold-out concerts at Radio City Music Hall.



Peter Allen

Cudd said Allen was dubbed the music hall's "Goodwill Ambassador," and was the first concert performer to join the Rockettes' famous kickline during one of his first appearances there.

His autobiographical "Up in One — More Than a Concert" played to sold-out houses at the Biltmore Theater on Broadway, in Los Angeles and in Australia.

In 1988, he wrote the music and lyrics to the Broadway musical "Legs Diamond," in which he starred as the real-life gangster.

Allen's last concert appearance was in Sydney, Australia, in January.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations may be made to the People With AIDS Coalition or to any charity devoted to helping people with AIDS or AIDS research. ▼

AIDS-Fighting Drug Tests Under Way

United Press International

CLEVELAND — A new AIDS-fighting drug is to be tested at Case Western Reserve University to determine whether it will be as effective in humans as it is in the test tube.

The drug, Procyteine, will be investigated by researchers at CWRU, Johns Hopkins in Baltimore and at Brown University in Providence, R.I., CWRU officials said June 22.

Preliminary test tube studies indicate the drug slowed progression of the virus by boosting the immune system. A limited study involving 24 people, 12 in Cleveland and 12 in Rhode Island, was also successful.

Such initial drug studies are conducted to see how well people tolerate large doses of a drug.

In the next round of tests, 36 people, 12 in Cleveland, will be included, officials said.

But if the history of testing other "promising" drugs shows anything, Procyteine

has a greater chance of failing than of moving beyond the next round of tests.

"I stopped listening eight years ago" to the promises," said Dr. Leonard Calabrese, an AIDS researcher at the Cleveland Clinic. He said the realities of promising drugs are very sobering.

"To say it works in the test tube and ... then get it to the point where we can prove it prolongs life takes a long, long time," he said. "AZT is the gold standard and we're still questioning it after all these years."

Officials from the National Institutes of Health said that, as of June 22, 98 trials of AIDS-fighting drugs were under way at research centers across the nation. Only three drugs, AZT, ddI and ddC, have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration as being somewhat safe and effective. Seven other drugs have been approved by the FDA for treatment of AIDS-related illnesses. ▼

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AZT Mired in Controversy

by Dave Gilden

Larry is a survivor. Diagnosed with AIDS eight years ago, his helper T-cell counts have been zero for more than three. Yet supposedly this type of disease-fighting white blood cell, whose decimation is characteristic of AIDS, is essential for protection against disease. Although undergoing treatment for two AIDS-related conditions, Larry has never taken the supposedly standard treatment for AIDS — AZT.

Paul is not a survivor. He died last year after his helper T-cell blood level had dropped to zero. Along the way, Paul tried AZT and all the similar experimental drugs, including ddI, ddC and d4T. Adverse side effects forced him to stop taking each of these.

Carl on the other hand has been on AZT for six years and swears by it. Although infected with HIV, he has never been sick and his helper T-cell level is stable.

But Brad has watched his helper T-cell count plummet from 250 to 75 in eight months while continuing on AZT (A count of 1,000 helper T-cells per cubic millimeter of blood is normal. Levels below 200 are considered a warning of AIDS' onset.)

Everyone's Confused

When people's experience varies so radically, it is no wonder that five years after

government approval, the debate still rages over AZT's value. Its appropriate place in AIDS therapy remains in doubt while recent articles in the mainstream mass media have attacked the wisdom of using it at all.

But Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health, recommends that AZT be taken immediately after contracting the human immunodeficiency virus.

Yet world-renowned HIV researcher Jay Levy worries that starting AZT too early is wasting the drug, giving the virus a chance to build up resistance to it. AZT would then be worthless when sickness occurs and it is really needed.

Most AIDS specialists now believe in starting AZT therapy fairly early, after helper T-cell counts have dropped significantly below normal but still remain within the healthy range.

Nevertheless, a strong minority of doctors continues to hold out for using AZT only as a treatment of last resort. They view the small benefits of early treatment as counterbalanced by the risk of anemia and immune-suppressing side effects.

John James, editor of the respected AIDS Treatment News, sums up the arguments: "There is no doubt that AZT is a bad drug, but compared to what?"

The Limits of Science

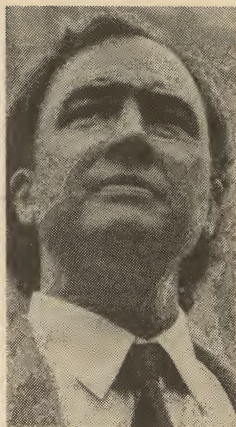
Until last fall, when ddI was approved, AZT was the only officially sanctioned treatment for AIDS and HIV infection. A wide variety of drug trials ushered in an increasing sophistication as to how and when to apply the treatment, but the complexity of those trials was also a sign of the inability to fully establish AZT's effectiveness.

As James noted, AZT can have at best only limited effectiveness. Its range of action is very narrow. The drug can intervene at only one moment in the life-cycle of HIV: when the virus first enters an uninfected cell and attempts to integrate its genes with those of the cell. At that point an AZT molecule, if in the right place, has a chance of blocking reverse transcriptase, the enzyme that HIV uses to accomplish its feat of cellular integration.

Later on, when the virus genes have converted the cell into an HIV factory, AZT is useless.

AZT usually gives a quick boost to one's helper T-cell population and AIDS symptoms subside. This effect is temporary and generally disappears in a year or two. The reasons for the loss of efficacy remain obscure, but certainly have to do with AZT's inability to really curb HIV's spread in the body.

Don't estimate the value of AZT's transient usefulness: For people seriously ill with AIDS, it is crucial. An Italian



Dr. Paul Volberding: AZT of modest value.

study published last winter found that untreated PWAs had a median survival of 9.6 months whereas for those taking AZT, the median survival time was 21.2 months.

AZT's ultimate effect is harder to pin down in people with less advanced symptoms. Does the drug prolong total lifespan or does it just slow progression to AIDS?

All the studies show retarded progression, but only to a certain extent. The study used by the government to approve early treatment found that out of 100 mildly affected people with HIV, an average of 7.6 would develop AIDS or advanced ARC in the course of a year. Just four fewer, or 3.6, would develop serious symptoms in their

first year on AZT.

Such slight differences in low rates of progression make it hard to establish AZT's contribution to survival. Measuring that requires following large numbers of people for years.

Two recent contradictory studies illustrate the problems involved. The first, carried out in 340 people during a two-year period, compared early to late AZT treatment and found no difference in survival time. But this study, conducted at veterans hospitals around the country, was marked by doses of AZT now known to be excessive, treatment changes during the trial, and confusion about which patient deaths were related to AIDS.

Another study, published in April, claimed to show that early AZT did prolong life in 2,500 men. Its findings actually were murky at best. Among the least impaired individuals with HIV, no significant difference was observed. Among HIV-positive people with mild symptoms, early AZT alone did not significantly improve the death rate beyond the first 18 months of treatment. But during the first six months, the AZT effect was very high — the death rate was cut by more than half.

More Art than Science

According to Dr. Paul Volberding, who has conducted extensive testing of AZT in San Francisco, "No trial can really settle the survival question because you would need

(Continued on page 31)

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Obituaries

Rick Saporito

Feb. 16, 1948-June 19, 1992

Housewife, Quaker, Marine, raconteur — Rick finally stopped talking and passed into the light on June 19 in the arms of his partner of 12 years, Owen Killian. Rick lived a rich, full life, with no regrets. Born in Brooklyn, he attended Catholic Schools and Seminary in preparation for becoming a Franciscan monk. He was sent to Vietnam by the Marines and was one of the first test cases for conscientious objectors in the United States. He was granted CO status based on his strong conviction and testimony for peace and served as

a medic, receiving an honorable discharge.

He moved to San Francisco in the early '70s and was a well-known waiter at La Casa, Golden Eagle, Balboa Cafe and finally Stars.

He was a longtime member of San Francisco Friends Meeting (Quaker), where his peaceful spirit blossomed.

Rick lived a life of love, strength, courage and humor. He will be missed by his Sweet Baboo, Delores Ann, Little Guy and Little Girl, Boo and many loving friends and Friends.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 27, at 3 p.m. at Friends Meeting House, 2151 Vine St., Berkeley. Donations to Friends of Recreation and Parks, c/o Jeanne Lohmann, 722 10th Ave., SF, CA 94118 will be greatly appreciated. ▼

Henry W. Barley

Dec. 31, 1903-May 31, 1992

"Hank" Barley suffered a stroke on May 17 and passed to a new life on May 31. His life spanned eight decades and he generously shared what he knew and who he was with all whom he met. Hank was truly one of the last bon vivants of a genteel cafe society which seldom shows itself anymore. He was a true gentleman's gentleman, rarely if ever seen in public without a coat and tie, and in his last years, his ever-present jaunty beret. He had a sense of style and grace which was honed by many years of prospering in the advertising industry as vice president of Benton and Bowles, head of programming for the BLUE network, and head of the strategic metals recycling program under FDR during WWII. He was a friend and confidant of presidents, kings, and captains of industry. He was

a man of vision and single-minded determination who was willing to sacrifice success rather than his principles. Those of us who met and knew him during the zesty years of his retirement never tired of his stories and reminiscences, which were many and included "good dish" on some of the legends of bi-coastal society. He took particular delight in the fact that his birthday was celebrated worldwide each year with much fanfare.

He was an early member of Metropolitan Community Church in Los Angeles and during the past few years, of Dignity/San Francisco. Hank is survived by his brothers and sisters-in-law Dick and Olive Barley of Mission Viejo, and Epsy and Sara Barley of Cumberland, Md.; his nephew Larry; nieces Linda and Carol. He will be sadly missed by his close friends Bill Thorne, Greg Jurin, Jim McCrea, and his roommate and friend, Wayne Kirchoffer.

Hank is resting beside his longtime companion of 35 years, George "Scotty" McKnight, who preceded him in death in 1967; together again as they were in life.

"May the angels lead you into paradise; May the martyrs come to welcome you And take you to the Holy City The new and eternal Jerusalem." ▼

Harry A. Varjian, Jr.

Feb. 9, 1946-May 22, 1992

Harry was a special person. For those fortunate to know and love him, he was a fun-loving, generous, spiritual, intellectually brilliant and successful human being. Harry knew and enjoyed the finer things in life and shared his good fortune with his friends and loved ones... our San Francisco family. In the '80s, Harry's place on Mars was the best pre-party parties. In recent years, he regularly welcomed his friends to his home at the River.

Harry moved to San Francisco from Boston in 1977. Harry's spirituality was manifested through his interest in the works of Seth, metaphysics and astrology. Harry's analytical mind brought him to the forefront of designing computer systems for Tandem, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, Crocker Bank and Charles Schwab. For the past 10 years he helped design electronic banking systems that are used worldwide today.

We who loved and cared for Harry will miss his influence on our lives. He is survived by his father and mother, Harry A., Sr., and Virginia A., of Florida; sister Judith Vennell; brother David and twin brother Gary; and his San Francisco family, Belinda, Neil, Brian, Karen, Brad, Barry and Bob.

A memorial service was held June 13 at his home at the Russian River. Donations may be made in his name to The Family Link and Project Open Hand. "Angels Never Die" ▼

Thomas Ray Duttlinger

Sept. 7, 1948-June 20, 1992

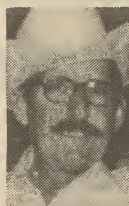
Tom passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends at R.K. Davies Medical Center after a long battle with AIDS. Tom will be sorely missed by those of us who knew and loved him. The world lost a nice guy on that day.

Tom grew up in Iowa on a family farm. He attended a one-room country schoolhouse for the first seven years of his education. He later graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelor's degree in psychology. He served in the U.S. Army as a sergeant stationed in Hawaii.

Tom later moved to San Francisco in 1976 and started to work at ATT where he remained until his death. He made many friends and was well liked in the community. Tom is survived by his father and mother, Ray and Doris Duttlinger; his brothers Dan and John; and his sister Karen Giusti. Tom was a beloved uncle to Ray, Sarah, Luke and Jamie.

At Tom's request no service was held. Contributions in his name can be made to the AIDS charity of your choice. We all love and miss you, Tom. ▼

Robert Massotti



Robert Massotti, also known as "Mother," manager of the former Nothing Special bar, passed away at his home in San Francisco June 12, four days prior to his 71st birthday.

Neptune Society of SF and Kerr Mortuary of Alturas are handling the arrangements. Internment will take place in his hometown of Adin.

At his request, no services will be held. ▼

Donald T. Squire, Jr.

Feb. 3, 1959-June 16, 1992

Don peacefully ended his struggle with AIDS at 2:19 p.m. June 16 at his home in Milpitas. His lover of four years, Jerry, was by his side.

Don was the fifth Emperor of the Imperial Star Empire, Inc., of all Alameda County (I.S.E.) and is survived by his Empress Cha Cha. He was one of the youngest Emperors on the "circuit" at that time. He kept the "little boy" in him always as evidenced by his symbol, the teddy bear. Laughter and good times were his constant companions and something that he always shared with others. His lust for life was infectious. His valiant fight against the virus was proof of this. Even when the pain was unbearable, he bore it with good humor.

Don loved to travel and met many lifelong friends. Pride in his work, community and family were what he was about. He loved and cared about people and was always there to offer a helping hand. Don's service to his and other communities will long be remembered. His hard work and dedication were inspiring to many.

The bright colors he loved would shine forth in his smile. His creativity was expressed working as a certified nurseryman for a number of years. He loved people and was always a welcome sight behind the bar and the Town and Country in Oakland.

His free-spirited approach to life will long be remembered in Alameda and surrounding counties and throughout the country. His warm smile, quick wit and easy manner will never be forgotten. Don, Jerry and your many, many friends will miss you but promise to continue the work you cared so much about.

It has been requested that donations be made to the In Memory Foundation, 58 Van Cleave, Oakland, CA 94619 in lieu of flowers. ▼

Mark Wang

At 12:50 a.m. Saturday, June 20, Mark



Wang passed away in his home in the company of friends and loved ones who carry him on. He was murdered by the government, homophobia, AIDS-phobia, ignorance and hate; he was mostly harassed to death by the police while on his death bed. After being clubbed in the head in the night of Oct. 6, 1989, in the Castro, he became ill but remained determined to fight the red tape that was thrown at him and his gay and lesbian brothers and sisters.

Mark fought for women's rights, AIDS research, fair and humane treatment for people with AIDS, reproductive freedom and gay and lesbian rights.

Mark also made strong ties with figures in the gay community. He fought and defended Robert Chesley, who was also murdered and silenced by the government. Mark was also a strong force in ACT UP/SF. He became the savior of friends who needed to be released from jail after actions, regardless of the time of day or night; Mark was the dependable friend and gentleman 100 percent.

Mark's greatest accomplishment was chronicling the history of the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender community through the works and efforts of Electric City for seven years. Without reservation, he was there to investigate and expose the issues that make up the com-

munity. His has touched countless numbers of people, and the fight has not ended.

Mark died with little funds but did not die a poor man. He will be remembered as a man who has enriched many people. ▼

Jim Merron

"Teach me to realize that this world is passing, that my true future is the happiness of heaven, that life on earth is short, and the life to come eternal."

(from the Universal Prayer, Pope Clement XI)

Surrounded by his lover of six years, JR Garcia, friends and his ever-present cockers, Teddy and Amanda, Jim Merron said goodbye and closed his magnificent blue eyes one last time on Saturday, June 13. His courage, compassion and sense of humor served as a source of comfort for all.

Originally from Syracuse, N.Y., Jim moved to San Francisco in 1975, working primarily in the fashion industry, most recently as controller for Shady Grove, Inc., of Oakland.

Jim's loving smile and generous ways will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. ▼

David Joseph Beavers

At 1:30 a.m. on May 25, St. Peter



looked up and saw a handsome 44-year-old man knocking at the Pearly Gates. The man tipped his brown hat and introduced himself as David, the beloved son of Margaret Ellen and Verlin T. Beavers, brother

of Wanda McKown and Billy Beavers. Always the salesman, David showed St. Peter his business card and the W.W. Grainger catalog and nearly charmed him into buying several of their 4,000 items. David asked St. Peter to move a little so he could get a good picture of him and the Pearly Gates with Sutor Tower in the background. Before going into heaven, David turned and gave his Marine Corps salute to his lover of 15 years, Dr. Tom Munyon, and to his three dogs, Kalif, Pantera and P.C. David's remains were cremated as he wished and divided into two tasteful urns. One was buried next to his father in Virginia. One will be buried with his lover's remains someday. A party celebrating David's life will be held at Park Hill Condominium Community Room on June 27. Contributions to Project Open Hand are suggested. ▼

Michael Stephen Rudder

April 19, 1960-June 9, 1992

Our dear friend Steve died on June 9 at his mother's home in Knoxville, Tenn. In March Steve had made the tough decision to leave his home and many friends in San Francisco to return to Knoxville to spend time with and have the support

and care of his family.

Steve graduated from the University of Tennessee where he was a member of the varsity diving team, a varsity cheerleader and a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. He was an avid sports fan who was active in swimming, running, biking, skiing and racquetball, and drove most of his non-sports enthusiasts friends crazy with his sports obsessions.

Steve lived in Houston from 1985 to 1988 and moved to San Francisco in January of 1989 as a result of a sought-after transfer with General Electric Computer Services where he was a field manager.

Steve is survived by his mother, Ann; his sisters Carol, Lisa and Amy; and his brother David, all of whom live in Knoxville and were very supportive of Steve during his illness; and his father, Paul, of Virginia Beach, Va.

Steve was consistently brave and optimistic throughout his two-year battle with AIDS. We, his many friends, will miss our "Buddy," his truly kind soul, his engaging personality, his incessant chatter. We are happy he is now at peace. Memorials in his name can be made to the AIDS Emergency Fund or Shanti. ▼

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552-5412

Obituaries

Robert Spencer 1953-1992

Robert passed away peacefully on May 24 after a three-year battle with AIDS. During his illness, he kept his dignity and love for life strong and admirable.

Robert loved his job as a former manager of Market Street Gym. There he found friends and loved helping people with their training in fitness and bodybuilding.

Before moving to San Francisco in 1989 to take this position, he was a naval telecommunications specialist with the Department of Navy in Washington, D.C. After the Navy sent him to Stockton on a short assignment a number of years ago, he aspired to make his home in California, and out of this desire grew his affiliation with Market Street Gym.

Robert was a native of the District of Columbia and grew up in Alexandria, Va. He is a graduate of Fort Hunt High School, Palm Beach Community College and Florida State University, where he earned his BA degree in business administration. He traveled extensively before settling into his first career with the Navy Department, where he was cited for excellence in various assignments. His second career in SF made him many friends, particularly in the Castro District.

Robert is survived by his lover, friend and companion of 10 years, Dennis Palmer of San Francisco; his parents, Donald E. and Margit H. Spencer, of Bad Oeynhausen, Germany; his sister Julie D. Spencer of Sacramento and Orange County; and many friends and relatives who will miss him very much.

A memorial service was held at sea on Wednesday, June 3, in Bonita Cove at the mouth of the SF Bay where his ashes were scattered.

We will miss you Robert; rest in peace and I love you with all my heart.
— Dennis ▼

Michael C. Mullins

Sept. 25, 1955–June 18, 1992

Michael left us late Thursday evening, after a long, courageous and stubborn battle with AIDS. He died peacefully at home, surrounded by loving family and friends.

Michael was born and died in Oakland, Calif. His career in retail display with Penny's, Liberty House and Emporium-Capwell was cut short by his AIDS disability. Michael devoted his last years to his health, his painting, his inner life, his family and friends and his cat Rajah.

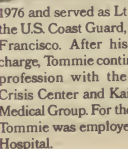
Michael is survived by his mother, Ethel; his sisters Rory, Roxy and Kathy; his brother Randy; and his many friends, including Rick, Leon, Maryanne, Barbara, Keith, Rich, Neal, Kathy, Nancy and Gaye. Donations can be made in Michael's name to the East Bay AIDS Clinic or AIDS Project of the East Bay.

There will be a memorial service for Michael on Saturday, June 27, at 2 p.m. at the Chapel of the Chimes in Oakland. For information call Ethel at (510) 839-7116 or Rick at (510) 532-3172.

Michael's message to all his friends is, "I love you and I've gone to a better place." We all will miss you dearly, Michael. ▼

Dr. Tommie B. Williamson Aug. 3, 1948–June 15, 1992

Dr. Tommie received his bachelor's degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and thereafter acquired his M.D. of Psychiatry, completing his residency at Emory University Medical Center. He moved to California in 1976 and served as Lt. Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard, stationed in San Francisco. After his honorable discharge, Tommie continued his medical profession with the San Francisco Crisis Center and Kaiser Permanente Medical Group. For the last seven years, Tommie was employed by Napa State Hospital.



Tommie is survived by his loving and supportive mother and father, Susie and Tommie, Sr.; his twin sisters Anne Marie and Sue Ellen; and his brother and sister-in-law Bill and Daphne. Tommie will be missed by his longtime companion, Matthew Stimson; dear friends Andrew and Ben, Abe, Monty and a host of others. Special thanks are wished to the staff members of Napa State Hospital, many of whom donated personal sick time and vacation leave for Tommie's use during his illness.

The strength and courage exhibited by Tommie's long and valiant fight for his life, and heroic support provided by his family and friends, and Tommie's nonjudgmental appreciation of life and humanity are a testament to his spirit and an enduring example for all who were so fortunate to know him.

Services have been held in North Carolina and, additionally, friends will gather in San Francisco at 3 p.m. on June 28 at the Unitarian Church at 1178 Franklin St. to celebrate Tommie's life. Donations may be made to San Francisco AIDS Health Project or the Napa State Hospital Patient Fund. ▼

James William Haltom

Nov. 18, 1956–May 25, 1992

"Just a little mushroom, keep me in the dark and feed me bull-shit!" ... Yes Jimmy, we know. ... Everybody always was trying to put one over on you.

Jim grew up in San Jose and attended the University of California at Berkeley. After working for the telephone company for several years, Jim became responsible for telecommunications at the law firm of Graham & James in the city.

Jim loved to travel. He went to Australia, Hawaii and France many times. Last December, he spent two weeks in Paris. This last year, Jim traveled in California, visiting Yosemite, Palm Springs, Fort Bragg and Mendocino. In March, after Jimmy got sick, he spent a lovely spring day at Filoli, a beautiful afternoon at the Alta Mira in Sausalito and, on the year anniversary of the death of his roommate and longtime good friend Frank, Jimmy traveled up along the coast to Bolinas. In April, Jim went to El Dorado County to spend the day with his beloved mother, Lottie.

Jim was very brave during the three months that he was ill and although he was sad because his health was failing, he was unfailing courteous to everyone who helped care for him. Thanks to the Visiting Nurses, especially Sasha and Rick, and to everyone at Coming Home Hospice where Jimmy spent the last week of his life, before he entered into the light early Sunday morning, May 25.

You're out of the dark now Jimmy; you're in the light and you are surrounded by love. All of your dear friends miss you terribly Jimmy, but we think you're probably still a mushroom.

Please help us celebrate a Mass in thanksgiving for the life of Jimmy Haltom at Most Holy Redeemer Church on Monday, June 29, at 7 p.m. ▼

Robert "Regina" Rex

Dec. 15, 1950–June 18, 1992

Robert "Regina" Rex was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in Wisconsin. After coming out in the late '70s he moved from Milwaukee to Walnut Creek, and then to the city in 1983. Bob worked as an accountant for PG&E.

Bob met John Armor at the City Athletic Club in 1985, beginning a wonderful partnership. John gave him the name "Regina" while skiing together at Kirkwood their first winter, and has been called Regina by his friends ever since. Bobby liked to party, to travel, to read, to bicycle, to go to the theater, to jog along the Embarcadero, to play bridge and backgammon, to two-step at the Rawhide and disco at tea dance at the Boat Slip. He was active in SAGA, the gay ski club, and attended MCC.

Bob died of AIDS last Thursday at Mount Zion Hospital. When he read these notices in the B.A.R. he would say, "I'm afraid I won't be brave or noble like these people." Bobby, you were great, the kind and gentle man we all

loved until the moment you left us. Thanks to Barry, Doug, Steve, Don, Ed and Roy for visiting him regularly. Thanks to the staff of Clinical Home Healthcare, especially Roberta, Laurie and Carol for your professional support, and to his doctor Larry Waites.

Bobby is survived by his lover John Armor; his boyfriend Jim Mitulski; his teenage daughter, Frank DeFendis; and his cat Beaver. He is also survived by his parents, Kay and Ray Rex, and his sister Judy, all of Appleton, Wis. There will be a memorial service on Saturday, June 27, at 10 a.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, 150 Eureka St., SF 94114. Memorial gifts may be made to the Rex Memorial Fund for HIV programs at MCC. ▼

David Platt Owen

June 19, 1945–June 18, 1992

David Platt Owen died peacefully at home of AIDS-related causes at the age of almost 47. A native of Canton, N.C., he attended Mars Hill College and completed his undergraduate work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he was also awarded a Masters of Arts in teaching. He moved to San Francisco with his lifelong friend, Dick Allen, in 1974 where he had been pursuing his career as an artist until his untimely death.

David was a kind, quiet, gentle man who always acted and reacted in honest and compassionate ways. His love for all living creatures and his awareness of the beauty of nature were inspirations to all who knew him.

He will be missed by his San Francisco family: Dick Allen, David Bahl, Brandy and Moscone; and by his extended family: the "Pine Clones" (Alan, Alex, Casey, David H., Doyle, Linda Jean, Mar, Mark, Mickay, Sam and Ines). He will also be missed by his loving brothers Robert Owen in Asheville, N.C., and Charles Owen in Atlanta, Ga., and his sister Joan Owen Braswell in Wake Forest, N.C., and all their wonderful families.

At his request there will be no memorial service. In lieu of flowers, David suggested that donations can be made to either The Human Rights Campaign Fund, P.O. Box 1723, Washington, DC 20077; PAWS, P.O. Box 460489, SF, CA 94146; The Nature Conservancy, 785 Market St., 3rd Floor, SF, CA 94103; or Defenders of Wildlife, 124 Nineteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

Fortunately for all of us, David lives on through the outstanding body of his artwork he has left behind. He goes with love. ▼

Jimmy Eldon Rister

Nov. 25, 1954–June 4, 1992

Jimmy E. Rister of Denver made his peaceful life's transition early on the morning of June 4 at the age of 37. He was surrounded by his loved ones.

He was born on November 25, 1954, in El Centro, Calif., moving to San Diego, San Francisco, and eventually settling in Denver in 1991.

Jim was a master at furniture sales both at OysterBed in San Francisco and at Kacey's Fine Furniture in Denver. He was also a highly skilled home renovator. He was and will remain a celebrity among his family and friends. He is survived by his lifetime partner Gregg Sanchez, and their two boys Bartles and Jaymes.

His surviving family members are his mother, Lucy Blount, of Coleman, Texas; his sister Ann Sanders of Blossom, Texas; his sister Nell Smith of Kootenai, Idaho; and his brother Randy Rister of Imperial, Calif.

Jimmy's departure was a great loss to his multitude of "extended family" members, and he will hold a place in their hearts forever.

A private service will be held in late August for Jimmy's large circle of friends.

Contributions may be sent to Colorado AIDS Project, 1576 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203.

Remember Jimmy dearly!!! ▼

Richard Lee McClellan

Feb. 12, 1954–June 16, 1992

Richard was born in Huntington, W. Va., and came to California at the age of 12. He graduated from El Cerrito High School, later joined the Navy where he was stationed in San Diego, and then later worked for Round Table Pizza before his diagnosis with K.S. in March 1990.

An avid Giants and Forty Niners fan, his passing was made considerably easier for him, as well as those left behind, by his remarkable deathbed experience 30 minutes before his passing into the light at 1:06 a.m.

His vivid account of four visitors coming into his room, all dressed in white with golden blond hair and wings folded, gave peace to those near him. Richard's last words were, "I see Christ and I'm going Home."

He is survived by his longtime friend, Kenny Chapman, who was with him at the time of his transition, and other friends: Grant Dupont, Gary Emerson, Peter Fiske, Kevin Graff, Harold Kimmmerle, Coulter Thomas, as well as numerous acquaintances at the Watering Hole.

Services were held at the Livermore Mortuary, Livermore, Calif., on Thursday, June 18, and burial was in Santa Nella. Richard was buried with the leather pride flag by his side.

"Farewell, Humm Baby, you were a giant of a friend. I'll always love you."
— Kenny ▼

Michael D. Pobuda

April 9, 1957–May 30, 1992

On Saturday night at the end of May, Michael ended more than four years of living with AIDS. He died peacefully at home, surrounded by love in the city he loved, and love such as this does not end just because the body wears out.

Mike came to San Francisco after graduating from Michigan State. Like some wizard in his favorite fiction, Mike performed wonders as a systems programmer for The Research Libraries Group at Stanford University. He found joy in whatever he did, be it his job, discovering new restaurants, beefing up his body or his computer, or going to the movies or the beach. Mike moved easily from being a "Brunswick Beauty" in the Community Bowling League, to doing interpretive dance, to cheering on the Niners, to reading science fiction and fantasy. He even enjoyed pursuing medical research. For those who got to know him he remains an extraordinary human being — truly among the most gentle of men.

Mike leaves behind his family in Michigan and "family" here in the Bay Area — most especially Ralph, Lynn, Paula, Richard, cats Poly and Squid, and his Macintosh. We all miss him profoundly.

He asked that any gifts in his memory be donations to Project Open Hand. Mike was a gallant soldier in his battle with illness. His life and love serve as a beacon, "and grace will lead us home."

Obituary Policy

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▼

St. Mary's

AIDS Services



AIDS Bereavement Group

The group is open to partners and friends who have experienced the loss of a loved one through AIDS.

Date: Mondays for an Eight Week Session
Facilitators: Dr. Bart Aoki, Sr. Sharon Krenn
Time: 6:30–8:30 PM
Where: St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center
Chaplaincy Services Department
South Wing of the Hospital
2200 Hayes Street

Pre-Registration Required

750-5718

St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center

450 Stanyan Street • San Francisco, CA 94117-1079



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AIDS CLINICAL TRIALS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE PENINSULA

The AIDS Community Research Consortium (ACRC) is conducting new research on drugs for the treatment of HIV and its complications. We are seeking individuals interested in the following:

Toxoplasmosis study:

If you are HIV positive and have been exposed to toxoplasmosis, this study will help determine the effects of Pyrimethamine for the prevention of toxoplasmosis.

If you would like more information about these and other clinical trials being conducted by the ACRC for the treatment of HIV and its complications, contact:

South Bay
Carol Kane, RN
(408) 299-5523

Mid-Peninsula
Brian Camp, RN
(415) 364-6563

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Zen Hospice Project, a non-profit community service agency now in its fifth year, provides service to people with life-threatening illness and trains individuals in the fundamentals of caregiving within the context of meditative awareness.

For a brochure, call (415) 863-2910

To register, send payment to Zen Hospice Project, 273 Page St, SF 94102

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HIV News

High Court Lets Red Cross Move HIV Lawsuits to Federal Court

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court said June 19 that the American Red Cross can automatically remove from state to federal court lawsuits filed by people infected with HIV from blood transfusions.

By a 5-4 vote, the court said a congressional charter gives the Red Cross the right to face any lawsuit in federal court, where it believes it is more likely to prevail.

While the nation's blood supply is now considered safe, effective screening procedures for the human immunodeficiency virus, which is believed to cause AIDS, were unavailable to the Red Cross until 1985.

As a result, the Red Cross, one of the nation's largest suppliers of blood to hospitals, has faced more than 40 lawsuits nationwide by people who were infected through transfusion with the HIV virus.

The Centers for Disease Control recorded 4,205 transfusion-related AIDS cases as of Sept. 30, 1991, meaning the number of such lawsuits could continue to grow. Most of those cases are believed to have occurred from transfusions before 1985.

The 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals had ordered the Red Cross to face a suit in New Hampshire state court for allegedly supplying blood that carried HIV, received during a 1984 blood transfusion.

The woman who received the blood during a hysterectomy, identified in the lawsuit only as S.G. of Concord, N.H., now has AIDS. She claims it resulted from Red Cross negligence in failing to screen donated blood for HIV.

Of the more than 40 similar cases nationwide, about half of the district courts deciding the pretrial issues allowed the cases to be argued in state court, while the other half found that the Red Cross

has the right to demand a trial in federal court.

While the distinction may seem minor, the Red Cross feels federal judges are generally better qualified than state judges to handle such cases.

It also claims its status as a "federal instrumentality" raises other questions that must be addressed in federal court in terms of AIDS-related tort suits, including whether the Red Cross shares the federal government's "immunity from punitive damages and from jury trial demands."

The court ruled that the Red Cross' right to have the cases heard in federal court stems from its 1905 congressional charter, amended in 1947 to read that the organization can "sue and be sued" in "state or federal" courts.

Justice David Souter, writing for the majority, said prior cases where the high court has dealt with the same wording shows that the Red Cross can choose to move a case to federal court. ▼

Trial Vaccine Helps Chimps Prevent Infection From HIV

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The quest for an effective AIDS vaccine cleared an important hurdle with the finding that immunized chimpanzees can fend off infection from cells harboring the AIDS virus, scientists reported June 18.

In the past, researchers had only shown that potential AIDS vaccines could protect chimps against the human immunodeficiency virus when it was floating free in the bloodstream. However, in humans, HIV is usually transmitted by blood cells carrying the deadly virus.

"Any effective vaccine against HIV must protect against both viral forms," a team headed by Patricia Fultz of the University of Alabama at Birmingham wrote in a paper published in the journal Science.

HIV is spread by sexual or blood-to-blood contact, such as when intravenous drug

users share needles. It also can be passed on from a pregnant woman to her baby.

In their study, Fultz and her colleagues injected three chimpanzees with a complicated series of vaccine shots and boosters made up of various mixes of non-infectious HIV proteins.

At times ranging from one month to one year after their last injections, the chimps were challenged with intravenous infusions of HIV-infected blood cells taken from an HIV-infected chimp. None of the immunized animals developed any signs of HIV infection.

However, many problems remain before such a vaccine strategy could be routinely used in humans.

First, the vaccines' protective effects may not be long-lasting. One of the chimps developed HIV infection when it was rechallenged with HIV-infected cells a year after its first challenge.

Secondly, the immunization and booster series tested in the animals is far too costly and complex for use on a widespread basis in people.

"These regimens are not practical for use in human populations," said the team, which included scientists from France's Pasteur Institute, New York University, Duke University in Durham, N.C., and the National Cancer Institute.

The U.S. Public Health Service estimates 1 million Americans are infected with HIV. At least 10 million people worldwide have been infected since the epidemic was first recognized in 1981, the World Health Organization said.

At least eight potential AIDS vaccines are being tested in humans in the United States. However, so far, the results of the trials have been lackluster. ▼

Military

(Continued from page 2)

report said, "believe the military's policy is unsupported, unfair and counterproductive; has no validity according to scientific research and opinions; and appears to be based on the same type of prejudicial suppositions that were used to discriminate against blacks and women before these policies were changed."

In an appendix to the report, however, the assistant secretary of defense for force management and personnel, Christopher Jehn, rejected such empirical criteria.

"The Department of Defense policy," he said, "is based upon a series of carefully considered, professional military judgments and almost 50 years of experience

by a succession of civilian and military leaders. Military judgments about overall combat effectiveness are inherently subjective in nature and scientific or sociological analysis are unlikely ever to be dispositive."

The GAO did not actually suggest that Congress direct the Defense Department to reconsider its ban on homosexuals as an earlier draft of its report did.

Rather it noted that a bill to prohibit discrimination by the armed forces on the basis of sexual orientation was introduced in Congress last month and it expresses the hope that its findings will be useful in the consideration of that legislation.

"The concept of homosexual orientation as a mental disorder was formally rejected by the psychiatric profes-

sion about 20 years ago," the GAO said.

It noted that studies by both the Navy and the Defense Department found no grounds for the traditional belief that homosexuals posed an unusual risk to national security.

This view has also been endorsed by both Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and Joint Chiefs Chairman General Colin Powell, although both still defend the ban on homosexuals.

General American attitudes toward homosexuals in uniform appear to be changing, the GAO said. It noted that a Gallup survey conducted early last year found that 69 percent of those Americans over 18 questioned said that homosexuals should be allowed to serve in the armed

(Continued on page 33)

AZT

(Continued from page 27)

a control group taking a placebo and use death as the endpoint, and this raises ethical problems. But I can say that my AIDS patients back in '81 lived only for nine months and now they live for four years."

Volberding is quick to point out, however, that this change cannot be attributed to AZT alone, which he, too, considers "of modest value." It is in fact hard to separate out AZT's exact influence.

Ten years ago those developing AIDS had only been in-

fectured with HIV for a few years. They were the ones most susceptible to the damage triggered by the virus. Now, many PWAs have been HIV-positive for a decade or more without signs of AIDS. Also, both patients and doctors better recognize the signs of disease. They are more able to treat the various opportunistic infections associated with AIDS and ARC.

These subtle factors point out an inherent problem with drug trials: No drug trial can ever detail the immense range of personal variations existing in the "real world," nor predict exactly how a medication will behave in each individual.

Each person's genes, lifestyle, personality and environment differ, and one's personal bodily chemistry reflects these differences. Every doctor is different, too. Each has an individual approach to patient care based on personality and skill. Physicians and patients may use trial results to guide their attempts to

cure disease, but in the end, they have to pragmatically and creatively sort out the obtainable therapeutic tools to discover which work for them.

The therapeutic tools available for AIDS and HIV should not be confined to AZT for long. Already, ddI and ddC, both of which work

like AZT, are available. Mixing the three offers some hope of transcending the limits of AZT alone. And a new generation of drugs is on the horizon. The arrival of more advanced medications will render the AZT debate moot more surely than still more trials of this obviously flawed treatment. ▼

Gays Threaten to Out Government Members

United Press International

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — A gay and lesbian rights group threatened to "out" members of the Nicaraguan government June 18 unless President Violeta Chamorro blocks a bill outlawing sodomy.

"We hope that President Chamorro vetoes the law, because if not they will see first and last names (of gay government officials) and they will be shocked to see who it includes," said Manuel Aguilar, a leader of the Nosotras y Somos group.

The bill, which passed through Parliament recently, would make sodomy, or even the encouragement of it through printed matter for example, a crime punishable by between one and three

years in prison.

The group also plans to send a petition of 29,000 names to Chamorro asking her to block the new law.

"We have the right to have sex however we wish, that is absolute freedom," said Alonso Gonzalez, a spokesman for the group. "We are in Nicaragua to stay, you can't push us aside."

Nosotras y Somos also said they also planned to hold a series of seminars discussing homosexuality and lesbianism and distribute condoms.

On the plans to explain what homosexuality is, Gonzalez said, "we will do it with films, videos. There will be very educative discussions."

Sandinista deputies Maria Ramirez and comandante Dora Maria Tellez are expected to attend the seminars. ▼

Nicaragua

(Continued from page 2)

lesbian and gay film festival, as well as a campaign for abortion rights, AIDS and safe-sex education, gay and lesbian rights, and women's rights to define their own sexuality.

Chamorro has until July 11 to take a position on the measure, and she has the option of ratifying the anti-rape provisions while vetoing the anti-sodomy measure. Nicaragua's Consul General in San Francisco met with activists here earlier and personally took their demands to Chamorro the next day.

Organizers here felt that there was a good chance the president would not sign the anti-sodomy measure, and that pressure from activists in

the U.S. could make a difference.

"We must continue to exert all of the pressure we can. Our letters are read and our protests are heard," Matthews said.

"I'm here because I don't want this law to be ratified. I feel like we can make a difference if we start writing," Eveline Shen, a participant in the protest, said.

As the rally was finishing up outside, Nicaragua's vice consul, Jose Somarriba, spoke with the Bay Area Reporter about the law. He refused to even speculate about the president's position.

Activists ask that everyone write Her Excellency, Violeta Barrios de Chamorro at Casa Presidencial, Managua, Nicaragua, or fax to 011-5052-627911 to argue against the anti-sodomy measure. ▼

Textbook

(Continued from page 5)

mote a dysfunctional lifestyle, homosexuality, to the 5 million children of the state.

"The new health and physical education framework opts for social indoctrination. Homosexual groups are pleased with the framework because it is part of their aggressive push to change society's morals using the schools as a conduit to recruit others into the lifestyle," Sheldon said. "What you are seeing is the disintegration of moral absolutes today."

GLAAD representatives and other activists involved in Project 21 say it is imperative that lesbian and gay people get their voices heard on this issue.

"The state Board is in the business of practicing censorship at this point, so the outlook doesn't look too good. But we'll fight, and fighting sometimes changes the odds," said Al Kielwasser, a GLAAD spokesperson.

GLAAD urges everyone to write to Joseph Stein, president, and all members of the California state Board of Education, PO Box 944272, Sacramento, CA 94244-2720. ▼

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Investigational Drug Studies

ViRx, a private clinical research center, is recruiting for the following clinical trials:

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- Phase I study of gp120, a therapeutic vaccine, for persons with T-cell counts above 500.
- Phase III study of AZT and ddC versus AZT, ddC, and alpha-interferon in HIV-positive persons with T-cell counts between 300-500 and less than three months of prior antiretroviral therapy.
- Phase I/II study of Lentinan plus DDI versus DDI plus placebo for persons with T-cell counts between 200-500.
- Phase II study of GLQ223 alone and in combination with AZT versus AZT alone for persons with T-cell counts between 200-500 who have not had prior treatment with GLQ223.

For Herpes:

- 256U87 versus acyclovir for the suppression of ano-genital herpes in HIV-positive participants.
- 256U87 versus acyclovir for the treatment of ano-genital herpes in HIV-negative and HIV-positive participants.

For enrollment information, please call ViRx at 415-474-2233.

ViRx

ViRx, Inc.
655 Sutter Street
Suite 600
San Francisco
California, 94102

Feeling down?
The UCSF Positive Education Project is conducting education groups to help HIV-positive, gay men cope with the stress of living with HIV disease.

If you are a gay man who is HIV-positive with T-cells between 200 and 500

and are interested in participating in the Positive Education Project please call us at:

597-9141

The UCSF Positive Education Project

Your experience coping with stress can help thousands of others who will become caregivers in years to come.

Help us learn how men in your situation maintain their mental and physical well-being. Share your valuable knowledge with others.

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CALL 415/597-9177

for information on how you can

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M E N:



DOES SOMEONE YOU CARE FOR HAVE AIDS



HIVCare at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Announces Patient Recruitment for the Following Studies:



A randomized Phase II efficacy, activity and safety study of GLQ223 alone or in combination with AZT in symptomatic HIV-infected patients without prior treatment with GLQ223 or Trichosanthin.

A Phase II randomized, open-label comparative study of Itraconazole and Fluconazole for the treatment of AIDS-related Cryptococcal Meningitis.

A Double-Blind, randomized, comparative study of Itraconazole and Fluconazole as maintenance therapy for preventing relapse of AIDS-related Cryptococcal Meningitis.

A Phase II randomized study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of combination therapy with AZT and Intron A versus AZT alone in patients with asymptomatic to mildly symptomatic HIV infection.

For more information about these and other studies contact HIVCare Client Coordinator Drew Catapano at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

Queer Watch

(Continued from page 11)

bureaucracy.

The Christians have rewritten history to suggest that they were a severely persecuted minority in Roman times. In fact, few were ever "thrown to the lions," and the emerging feudal oligarchy tended to support Christianity, often forcibly converting their subjects to it.

Meanwhile, violent Christian mobs rampaged across the empire attacking and destroying pagan institutions. Were they partially motivated by the desire to destroy the protections that pagan religion offered women, or was the destruction of the only quasi-feminist institutions in the ancient world merely a by-product of their general prejudice?

One of the most famous Christian riots of those times was the burning of the library in Alexandria (Egypt) around 400 A.D. This was the largest literary institution of the ancient world, containing virtually every significant text then in print. Like most, it was affiliated with a pagan temple. It also happened to be run by an openly lesbian woman, Hypatia, considered the most brilliant scholar of her era.

The Christian mob denounced Hypatia as an irreligious pervert and stormed the temple, murdered her and all her associates, and finally burned the library to the ground. It marked the effective end of pagan and Greco-Roman culture and the beginning of the "Dark Ages." Most of that library's contents remain lost. Once again, it was the queers who created and defended the culture, and the homophobes (and Christians) who destroyed it.

Will presenting all this data sway the type of people who bring up homosexuality-caused-the-fall-of-Rome-style arguments in the first place? Probably not; but it will likely teach them not to flaunt such nonsense in your presence in the future. ▼

GLAAD Media Watch

Gay K mart TV Ad?

Compiled by Hollie Conley

10023.

'Roseanne'

A K mart Father's Day TV commercial featured an (apparently) gay couple. Checking out a fireplace display, one of the men asks, "Why don't you buy this for your father?" Replies the other, "My father doesn't own a fireplace." "No, but we do," says the first, as he puts his arm around the other man's shoulder and the two men walk away.

K mart, which ran a previous spot showing a woman shopper in a wheelchair, is evidently committed to breaking long-held taboos about who can or cannot be represented in commercials.

Interestingly, the company is already the target of a boycott called by the fundamentalist American Family Association (for selling Playboy in some stores).

Call K mart toll free at (800) 635-6278 (bigots call this number regularly to denounce the company!) or write Joseph Antonini, Chairman, K mart Corp., 3100 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48064.

Pacifica Library

For the second year in a row the Pacifica Library hosted an exhibit for Gay & Lesbian History Month. Last year's exhibit drew intense criticism from homophobes and a local minister even organized a demonstration. The library stood its ground and is offering a new display this year.

You may visit the library and see the exhibit through the end of June. Support the actions of the library in serving the community by writing to Elizabeth Sor, Branch Manager, Pacifica Library, Palmetto and Hilton Way, Pacifica CA 94044.

Roseanne Arnold has told QW magazine that her TV sister (played by Laurie Metcalf) may have lesbian relationships in coming seasons. Metcalf, by the way, was great as a lesbian cop in the movie "Internal Affairs." Drop Roseanne a line and support Jackie's coming out. Write to Roseanne Arnold, Co-Executive Producer, Roseanne, Carsey-Werner Co., 4024 Radford Avenue, Studio City CA 91604.

Springfield, Oregon

On May 19, the voters of Springfield, Oregon, passed a chilling local ordinance. The ordinance mandates that discrimination based on sexual orientation shall remain legal, and that neither public funds nor property may be used to "promote or encourage" homosexuality. The Springfield Chamber of Commerce has reportedly received calls and letters from around the country from individuals promising to bring their business to Springfield because of its pro-prejudice stand. Please tell the Chamber you will avoid doing business in Springfield until the law is rescinded, and that you will encourage your family and friends to do the same.

Write to Springfield Chamber of Commerce, 101 South A Street, Springfield OR 97477, tel. 503-746-1651.

Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, of all defamations, and if possible supply us with documentation. Our office number is 415-861-4588; South Bay Hotline 408-235-0229; East Bay Hotline 510-273-9146; fax 415-861-4893. Or write GLAAD-SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco CA 94114. ▼

Gay/Lesbian Programs

Dream On

Thursday, June 25, 10 p.m., HBO: In the "For Pete's Sake" episode, Martin Hupper's crass boss Gibby (Michael McKean) decides that their publishing company's big Christmas book should be the memoirs of a man with AIDS. Teaming with a gay writer (David Clennon), Martin learns to overcome some of his prejudices. Richard Karon and Gwen Verdon also guest star.

Radio Craze

Friday, June 26, 9 p.m., KQED-TV Ch. 9: Set in a mythical Miami Beach nightclub, the program features the Seattle Men's Chorus, comprised of gay men, recreating a radio broadcast from the 1940s. The list of songs includes the music of Glenn Miller, George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Spike Jones and others.

Chuck Solomon: Coming of Age

Saturday, June 27, 1 a.m., KQED-TV Ch. 9: The late San Francisco actor/director Chuck Solomon reflects on his life as a gay man in this program celebrating his life and career in the theatre. He is seen visiting his doctor during his bout with AIDS, at work at Theatre Rhinoceros and at his 40th birthday gala.

Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit

Saturday, June 27, 8 p.m., KQED-TV Ch. 9: Based on Jeanette Winter's award-winning novel, this film tells the story of a young woman who sets out as a missionary for openness and understanding after being denounced by her mother and congregation for falling in love with another woman.

Great Performances: The Lost Language of Cranes

Saturday, June 27, 10:50 p.m., KQED-TV Ch. 9: This dramatic adaptation (with nudity of the original British version edited out for the benefit of American audiences) of David Leavitt's novel revolves around a father who resists confronting his own homosexuality while his son yearns for openness and honesty. The film deals with issues of love, betrayal and commitment linked to the intricate dilemmas of family life.

Lavender Lounge

Tuesday, June 30, 1:30 p.m., SF Cable 25: Mark Kliem hosts SF's own queer TV dance party for gay boys and girls. We need dancers for next taping. Call the hotline, 337-4921.

Out: Immigration/Khush/The Battle of Tutenhaus

Tuesday, June 30, 10 p.m., KQED-TV Ch. 9: "Immigration" is an item on the discrimination by immigration laws in Great Britain against lesbian and gay couples with different case histories. "Khush" is an Urdu word meaning ecstatic pleasure, as well as gay and happy; this film focuses on the lives of South Asian lesbians and gay men living in Britain, North America and India. "The Battle of Tutenhaus" looks at the lives of gay squatters in East Berlin just prior to unification and their conflicts with Neo-Nazis and the police.

Special Presentation

Sunday, June 28, 2-5 p.m., KQED 88.5 FM: Highlights from the 1st National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Conference held in San Francisco June 26 & 27.

Peggy Sue

(Continued from page 12)

young to deal with this. I'm tired of people getting sick. I don't know how men who've lived here for 10 or more years can wake up in the morning. It's impossible for me to understand.

"And we're getting arrested for walking down the fucking sidewalks. We have a Reaganesque mayor. It's insane," she laments.

"The middle class is disappearing. The classism is insane. The more poor people get angry, the more cities are going to burn, the more black people are going to beat up white people and sometimes just so. LA was only an inkling of what's to come. People need to wake up."

So what does Peggy Sue foresee for herself and her community?

"The last two years have been so fucking weird. If the next two or five years are like the last, I have no idea. I feel like the world is upside down. I am so fucking sick of the police," she says. "I hope I can have lots of sex and turn the fucking pigs on their ears." ▼

NAMBLA

(Continued from page 5)

ual abuse."

"Regardless of what you might hear from NAMBLA, the truth is that child-adult sex is harmful to the child and does have deleterious long-term effects on the child," said J. Patrick Gannon, a psychologist who works with adult survivors of abuse.

But the anti-NAMBLA arguments were quickly countered with historical and emotional rebuttal from the other side.

"Boy lovers were at the forefront of the gay movement from the beginning," said Hubert Kennedy, a gay historian who supports NAMBLA.

He went on to tie the anti-NAMBLA forces of today to the anti-masturbation "hysteria" of the late 1800s.

"We are living through the most extreme panic about sex in history. If it succeeds, it will sweep away everything the gay liberation movement has done," said Tom Reeves, a founder of NAMBLA and a history professor in Boston. "NAMBLA stands very strongly against all exploita-

tion and abuse of children. Most of us are not pedophiles, but lovers of adolescent boys."

"I had decided by the time I was seven that I was gay," said David Stone, an activist from Detroit. "The rights of young people no matter what age to decide who they want to have sex with should be up to them."

Stone drew parallels between age of consent laws and parental notification provisions in laws that restrict abortion.

"We are all sexual minorities. We are all being oppressed in this society and we need to work together to fight it," Stone said.

Although no conclusions were reached and very few people seemed to change their positions, participants said that the forum was a needed opportunity to air ideas on the brewing controversy and discuss an issue that has the power to tear the community apart.

NAMBLA supporters told the Bay Area Reporter that two groups were planning to physically block the group from marching in this year's parade. Anti-NAMBLA activists would not confirm that expectation. ▼

Aging

(Continued from page 5)

old.... I get pissed off because society wants to shove their values down your throat. It's not OK to just accept you for your differences."

Smith's documentary examines aging and ageism, the lack of legal rights between partners and the lack of services geared specifically toward aging lesbians.

Smith said that many of the women she has spoken with were married at least shortly because of prejudice against lesbians. Some faced families that believed they should be locked up in mental institutions and one woman was sterilized as a teenager because she was lesbian.

"I used to think all this happened at random. If you stop and think, the wars have been going on for as long as you've been reading in school," Smith said. "Maybe our job here is to figure out how we can improve things. We can't change the world but we can make our part of

the world better. We can change our response to it. We can look at people and see people and not see barriers. We can see the positive and not just the negative and accept people for what they are."

Smith is a sound editor whose films include "The Prince of Tides," "The Hunt for Red October" and the forthcoming "A League of Their Own."

Smith has taken time off from her job to work full time on the documentary with her partner Karen Townsend, a producer and videographer. They work with an all-lesbian crew and Smith hopes to make more films with a women's production company.

Townsend calls the documentary a real labor of love because of the difficulty of finding funding. Smith and Townsend are writing grant proposals to various organizations.

The documentary has been in progress for about one year and Smith said that she plans to complete it by next spring. ▼

Military

(Continued from page 30)

forces. Only 51 percent felt that way in 1977.

A GAO examination of 17 Allied or Western neutral nations found that only four specifically exclude homosexuals.

"While 13 countries did not exclude homosexuals from entering their armed services," it said, "several had policies requiring separation if an individual's homosexuality was disclosed later or if an individual's behavior was found to be aggressive, harassing or disruptive."

Since the early 1970s, the GAO report noted, a number of American police and fire departments have adopted policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and have hired homosexuals, including San Francisco and more recently Milwaukee, Wisc.

"Officials from all eight of the departments that GAO contacted stated that they had not experienced any degradation of mission associated with these policies," the report said.

Among the police and fire departments visited were those in New York, San Francisco, Seattle and the District of Columbia.

"While these organizations are not comparable to the U.S. military in all ways," the GAO report said, "we believe that these organizations have attributes that are similar to those of military units. For example, their members work closely together; sleep in close quarters; use the same restroom facilities; maintain trust, confidence, discipline and morale; and respect the system of rank and command." ▼

LIVE NATIONAL RADIO PROGRAM: HIV Monthly

Join us the 1st Sunday of each month

DATES: July 5, 1992

August 2, 1992

September 6, 1992

TIME: 4:00 to 5:00 pm (Eastern Time)

STATION: KALW - 91.7 FM

WHO'S SPEAKING: Physicians, counselors, and others who care for and about people with HIV infection and AIDS.

WHO'S LISTENING: People interested in learning more about AIDS. People who are HIV positive or have friends, relatives, or loved ones who are. Professionals and volunteers working on the frontlines of the fight against AIDS. Listeners are invited to call in with questions and comments.

Broadcasts will be co-hosted by Dr. Ronald Grossman, an AIDS specialist in New York City, and journalist Brian Lehrer, who will be joined by different special guests each month.

This program will rise above the level of "AIDS 101" usually heard on radio and television. It will be a rare blend of issue-oriented and service-oriented programming. It will also keep its eyes and ears open for late-breaking news items in medical research and other areas relating to HIV.

First show topic will be:

Privacy and HIV: What you and Arthur Ashe have in common.

Our August program will be:

Medical progress update: Report from the International AIDS Conference.

Many community and public radio stations around the country will be broadcasting this program. To determine if a station in your listening area will carry this program, consult your local radio listings or you may call World Health Communications Inc. from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Time at 1-800-433-4584 (in New York State call 1-800-521-1177).

This series is sponsored by AIDS Project Los Angeles, AmFAR, the Conant Institute, Northwest AIDS Foundation, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Seattle Treatment Education Project, and Whitman-Walker Clinic.

These programs are supported under educational grants from Burroughs Wellcome Co.

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Budget

(Continued from page 1)

some state fees, including those at universities and community colleges. It also envisions eliminating many state-supported programs run by local administrations. Such

eliminations range from General Assistance for indigent, single adults to special education classes.

The plan calls for reducing health and welfare spending by 15 percent overall, but leaves observers guessing as to exactly where the cuts would come. More detail can be found in a recently leaked

budget outline drawn up by the California Health Services Department in early April.

"That budget run-through is the only thing that indicates where Wilson's mind is at on health issues. Otherwise, nothing public has been stated," Rios said.

This crude budget study limits state-supported health

care to the most impoverished people, who would receive only the most basic services — and then only if they could find hospitals able to absorb a 10 percent cut imposed on Medi-Cal reimbursement rates. One item limits long-term care for the remaining eligible population to 240 days per year. This raises images of invalid individuals expelled from nursing homes for three months a year.

An irony in cutting state health spending by 15 percent, or \$800 million per year, is that another \$700 million per year would be lost in federal matching funds. For example, the big hit considered for AIDS funding is the \$5.4 million trimmed from the AIDS Drug Program. This excision would render PWAs of moderate income ineligible to receive subsidized medications. It would also trigger the loss of a further \$15.5 million in federal AIDS funding under a state "maintenance of effort" provision in the national Ryan White Act, which provides grants for AIDS care and in-home and community-based services.

People with AIDS, like anyone with a chronic disease, will be particularly hard hit by the planned reductions. Without careful medical management and other support services that maintain quality

of life (including diet and housing), their health will rapidly deteriorate.

Belittling the importance of these proposals, Shannon Bowman, spokeswoman for the California Health and Welfare Agency, said, "That leaked document is just a budget drill, a model for the governor's consideration, that all agencies had to write up. Nothing is decided. Every state program is still at risk."

Some groups see even the more modest 4.5 percent health cuts suggested by Democratic legislators as disastrous when added to last year's losses. They are looking to rearrange the state's revenue base.

"There is no budget crisis. There's a tax write-off crisis resulting from years of giveaways to the top of the income pyramid," said Anthony von den Muhl of Chop from the Top.

Last Friday, Chop from the Top sponsored a demonstration in front of the local offices of Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, D-SF. Seventy-five people showed up to push for aggressive measures to close tax loopholes. Given that Medi-Cal alone covers some 50,000 people in this city, the number demonstrating was minuscule. Obviously, the feared revolution is not here yet. ▼



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San Francisco, CA 94102

donated by Wells Fargo Bank

ddC

(Continued from page 1)

improved physical symptoms or total survival time.

"The amount of data used to approve ddC is the slimmest amount of data I've seen for an AIDS drug," said Martin Delaney, director of the AIDS treatment activist group Project Inform. "Roche actually could have gotten approval much earlier if it had not been so timid about applying the new rules."

Dr. Donald Abrams sits on the FDA advisory committee that in April recommended ddC's approval. He warned that moving quickly has disadvantages as well as advantages:

"ddC fits into the new accelerated procedure that approves drugs as soon as there is any sign of safety and efficacy — as long as there are ongoing studies to confirm the drug's value. But physicians now have the problem of trying to figure out how to use ddC correctly. Patients and their doctors are going to have to take risks," Abrams warned.

Four studies involving 5,000 volunteers eventually will provide practitioners more solid information on how to use the new medication effectively.

Questions of medical urgency aside, the FDA is under pressure to move quickly on AIDS drugs by the burgeoning underground market for experimental and alternative AIDS treatments. As many as 10,000 people bought bootlegged versions of ddC last year.

While waiting for ddC's approval, ACT UP/New York warned the FDA that it was losing control of drug marketing.

"The United States is perilously close to a two-tiered drug development process. A second process is an assembly of underground suppliers, physicians and people with AIDS, who, unable to wait for the FDA process, are piecing together their own approaches to effective treatment," wrote Karl Owens on

behalf of ACT UP/NY's Treatment and Data Committee.

Underground supplies have proved problematic, however. At one point last winter, the FDA asked AIDS treatment buyers' clubs to stop selling ddC because of wide variations in the capsules' potency. The ddC underground market later resumed, but never reached its previous level.

Jim Corti, a central figure in the alternative ddC supply network, is relieved that ddC's approval is rendering his system unnecessary.

"We never had any business doing it (selling ddC) anyway. We weren't the experts," Corti said.

Speculation is rife, however, that other experimental drugs will find their way into the buyers' club circuit if their testing and approval process drags on.

Whatever the vagaries of unofficial supplies, some purchasers may well remember the ddC underground fondly: Before they stopped this week, underground wholesalers provided a month's ddC for as little as \$8. Hoffman-La Roche is planning to wholesale its government-sanctioned product at \$162.50 per month. At this rate, AZT-ddC combination therapy will cost a stiff \$5,500 per year.

Roche does have large research and quality control costs to recoup, and activists are not now complaining about Roche's pricing policies.

"At first blush, the ddC price seems OK, but we have no policy yet on how to handle the price of combination therapy," ACT UP's Karl Owens said.

Inexpensive industrial ddC, the source for the underground, has been available for more than two decades as a laboratory chemical. Its cheapness had led some to hope that ddC would be the first AIDS drug accessible to poor nations. But unless some means of subsidizing the cost is found — or a Third World ddC underground evolves — that hope will be frustrated. ▼

Why Not Me?



How many of my friends have died? I don't even know anymore. It seems like I've lost half my phone book. And when I tested negative, I felt like I had *betrayed* my friends, like I was better or smarter than them. Maybe that's why I didn't "play safely"

that night—that way the test wouldn't mean anything.

So what am I trying to prove? That I belong? That it's got to happen someday, so why fight it? It's too much to deal with. And nobody I know even wants to talk about it.

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Produced by AIDS Project Los Angeles, under a grant from the State Office of AIDS Testing Outreach Project.

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I drop to my knees.
I am a creature of habit.
Says The Horny Ol' Frenchman

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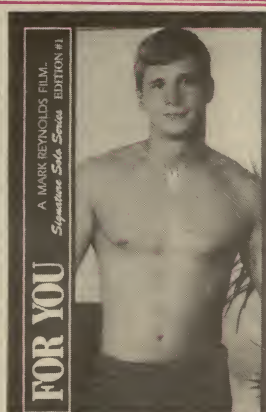
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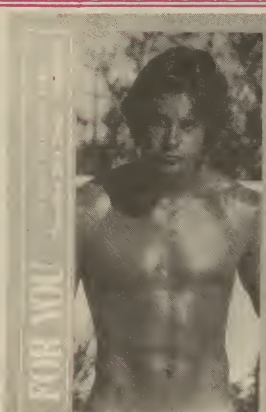
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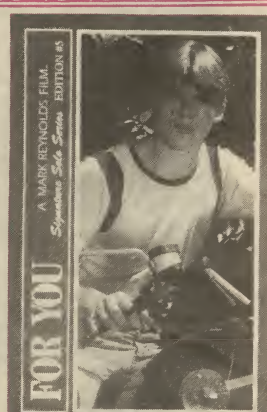
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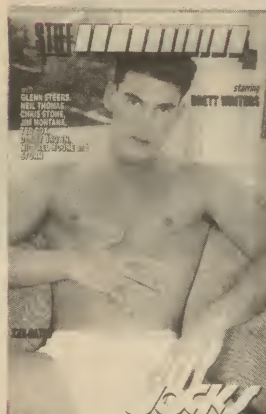
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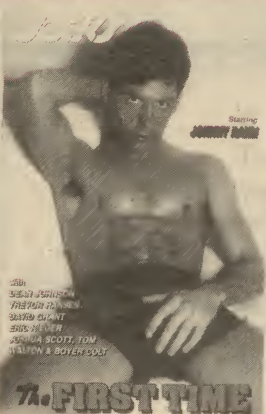
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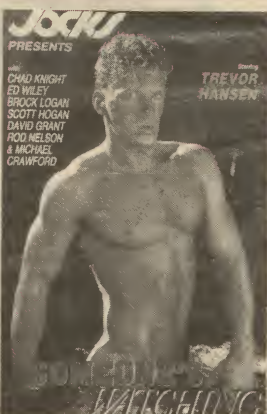
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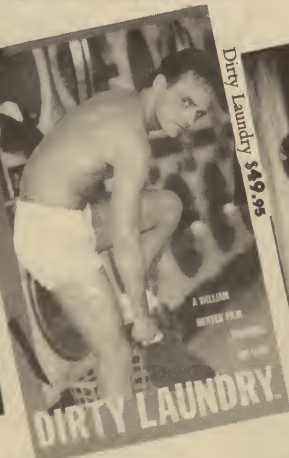
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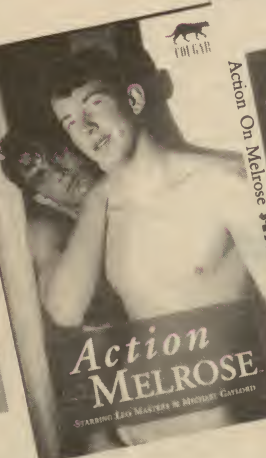
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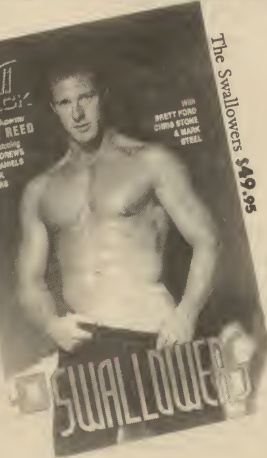
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Lesbian and Gay
PRIDE 1992
The Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXII NO. 25 JUNE 25, 1992



The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade

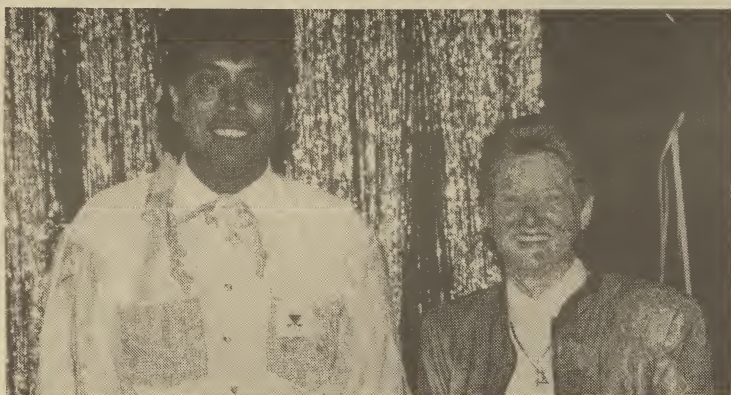
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"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade



Jesse John Rodriguez and Michelle Jester, Mr. and Ms. Gay Pride '92 (Photo: Ben Carlson)

Mr. and Ms. Gay Pride Named

Michelle Jester and Jesse John Rodriguez are Mr. and Ms. Gay Pride 1992, having won the titles June 13 in a fundraising contest run by the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Parade and Celebration Committee. As titleholders, Jester and Rodriguez will ride in an open car in the June 28 parade.

The contest, which began April 25, culminated in a stage show at Lily's bar at Valencia and Market, where the winners were announced.

Winners were determined by the number of raffle tickets they sold. Proceeds benefit the parade and celebration.

Jester is an accounting manager for PacBell and co-chair and longtime member of Team San Francisco. She's also a member of Bay Area Career Women, the lesbian businesswomen's association.

Rodriguez is an independent AIDS services adviser in San Jose.

Raffle prizes, which included a 20" color television set,

two table radios, three walkman sets, 10 grandstand seats, 10 parade pins and 10 parade T-shirts, were awarded that same evening.

Rodriguez beat Mr. Gay Pride contestants Charles King Le Beau and Q.T. bartender Sandy Davis. Jester beat Ms. Gay Pride contestants Ivana Trump, a financial services representative who moonlights as a member of Lily's Pump Girls; receptionist April Love; and Ms. Montana, who is self-employed.▼

500,000 Expected At 23rd Annual Parade

Organizers predict half a million people will line Market Street June 28 for the 23rd annual San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration. Floats, marching bands and local dignitaries including Mayor Frank Jordan will join leaders of San Francisco's large lesbian and gay community for the festivities.

Event Co-chairs Scott Stewart and Gail Wood announced May 22 that they have received more than three times as many applications for floats in the parade as were submitted last year — leading them to speculate that this year's crowd may exceed the 500,000 mark.

The theme of this year's event, "A Simple Matter of Justice," is a term that openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk used to describe civil rights for lesbians and gays. Milk, who was assassinated in 1978 with Mayor George Moscone, was known as the "Mayor of Castro Street." Castro Street remains the center of the city's gay life.

But Northern California's largest and most colorful annual event is no dry political rally.

The Women's Motorcycle Contingent will take their traditional place at the head of the parade. The contingent, formerly known as "Dykes on Bikes" until another group incorporated with that name, roars up the street to applause decked out in leather and Spandex.

The Barbary Coast Cloggers, a nationally known country-western dance troupe, will entertain from aboard their own float.

Members of GLOE, Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders, will ride a motorized Cable Car. GLOE is the only program funded by the San Francisco Commission on Aging that is actually run by seniors, according to Co-Director George Roosin, age 68.

On the younger side, teenagers from the Lavender Youth and Recreation Center will march as a contingent.

Parade goers will also cheer perennial favorites Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, a group that has won the praise of first lady Barbara Bush.

The grand marshals of the 1992 Freedom Day Parade

When/Where

The parade will start at 11 a.m. at the Ferry Building at the foot of Market Street, travel southwest and end in the Civic Center for the all-day Celebration featuring musical entertainment, food and beverages, community booths and concession stands. Those interested in more information, or in volunteering to help staff the event, may call 415-864-FREE.

represent more than leadership of the lesbian/gay rights movement, Co-Chair Wood said. They reflect the community's expansion and diversity as well. This year, for the first time, the Freedom Day Parade and Celebration Committee chose a bisexual person as a grand marshal.

Dr. Maggi Rubenstein, 61, is widely regarded as the "mother of the bisexual movement." She has co-founded numerous organizations, including the San Francisco Bisexual Center and the Bay Area Bisexual Network, and co-authored several books on human sexuality.

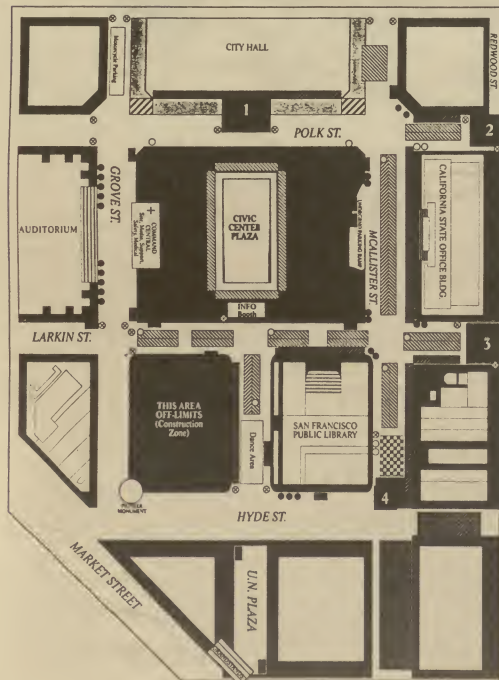
Grand marshal Don Johnson, originally from Southern California, is known locally as an extraordinary fundraiser and extra producer. Since 1985, his well-known productions, which include "You, and the Night, and the Music," "22 on the Red," "Physique" and benefit performances by the Kirov Ballet and American Ballet Theatre have raised more than \$1 million for community causes.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Johnson has won numerous awards, been recognized by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and honored by the Theatre Critics Circle.

This year the Parade Committee has added honorary grand marshals as a category. Minnesota residents Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson are widely known in the gay rights movement for their singular and successful struggle to overcome fate and prejudice.▼



LESBIAN GAY PARADE 92



- ⊗ DONATIONS BARRELS
- BOOTHS
- STAGES
- 1 CITY HALL
- 2 SPECIALTY
- 3 BAND/MUSIC
- 4 COUNTRY/WESTERN
- ① INFORMATION
- SPECIAL NEEDS
- SECURED AREA
- STREETS
- ☒ TENTS
- DUMPSTER
- ☒ DANCE FLOOR
- ⊕ FIRST AID
- ⊕ CELEBRATION MERCHANDISE
- PORTAPOTTIES
- BEVERAGES



Honorary Parade Co-Chairs Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

PLEASUREDOME

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SUNDAY JUNE 28, 1992

FREEDOM DAY CARNIVAL '92

FEATURING A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY

THELMA HOUSTON



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CARNIVAL

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(BETWEEN 2ND & 3RD)

4 PM TIL MIDNITE

ADMISSION \$2

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HAUNTED HOUSE

FUNHOUSE,

FABULOUS MIDWAY: GAMES OF SKILL

CLOWNS, JUGGLERS, FIRE-EATER

AND MORE

DANCE

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6 PM TIL DAWN

ADMISSION \$10

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HOUSE, FUNK, TECHNO-RAVE

DJ'S JERRY BONHAM / ALEC CUNNINGHAM

DANCE FLOOR #2

DISCO, HI-NRG, SLEAZE

DJ'S STEVEN KEEN / NEIL LEWIS

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Lesbian and Gay
PRIDE 1992
The Bay Area Reporter



(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

POWER TRIP

Women's Motorcycle Contingent— The Parade's Favorite Feature

by Rachel Timoner

It's become something of a tradition that the sound of revving engines and the sight of hundreds of women in leather jackets driving down the street on motorcycles means that San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade has begun.

Commonly known as "dykes on bikes," San Francisco's Women's Motorcycle Contingent is the largest gathering of women motorcyclists anywhere in the world, last year registering more than 330 bikes in the parade.

"A lot of people come out just to see the Women's Motorcycle Contingent. It's just that thrill of watching so many women on motorcycles. The crowd goes crazy," LB Gunn, one of the coordinators of the contingent, described. "I think because women on bikes are such a thrill, any dyke biker would want to be in the parade."

The contingent, which is open to any woman who has a bike, insurance and a license, has been a part of the parade's lineup for about 15 years, Gunn says. In early years the parade committee tried to place the bikes in the middle of the parade, but it has never worked.

"It doesn't work because



The Women's Motorcycle Contingent, formerly known as Dykes on Bikes, leads off the parade. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

our bikes are air-cooled and they break down if we have to go too slowly and keep stopping," Gunn said. "It's very traditional now for us to start the parade."

"We got the biggest cheer, so they figured they ought to start the parade with us," Kalin Lashley, who has been riding with the contingent since 1978, said.

Gunn, Lashley and others think it's fitting that women on motorcycles kick off the parade.

"Stereotypically, it's something to be feared. And to see women overcome all of this and not be afraid — it's about freedom," she says. "I want to encourage more women to get out there, get on a bike, take control of themselves and the road."

Lots of women in the area are clearly heeding Gunn's call, as ads and notices went up on bulletin boards around the city last month from women looking to borrow bikes or ride on the back of someone else's.

"I think part of it is because women on motorcycles have not been a common thing," Lashley says. "You just can't beat it for an ego boost. As soon as we start up there's a wave of screaming and clapping that emanates out of the crowd. A big part of it is seeing the pleasure we

give all of the spectators. That's what makes it for me. It's indescribable."

The Women's Motorcycle Contingent isn't just active during pride season. The dyke bikers operate their organization year-round, distributing a newsletter, *Overdrive*, to its membership, and holding monthly meetings of its 20-person steering committee, with representation from all of the Bay Area women's motorcycle clubs.

Gunn describes her passion for riding motorcycles.

"To climb on top of a bike and just take off and know this power's underneath you, and know you're in control, and feeling every tiny pebble on the road, and being in touch with all of the elements around you — you use your whole body and your mind. It's an awesome feeling," she relates.

In the last few years the group has been asked to lead off other California pride parades, including Fresno, Santa Cruz and San Jose. They also organize an annual motorcycle run down to Memorial Park near Half Moon Bay for two days of barbecue and fun.

Anyone interested in this year's Memorial Park run, which will be on Sept. 26 and 27, can call LB at 552-5221. ▼

Carrying the Torch

Simple Justice

by Robert Julian

Twenty years ago, the *San Francisco Chronicle* headline euphemistically described our first gay parade as "lively." Although there were two previous gay liberation celebrations, 1972 brought the first full-blown parade. The *Chronicle* offered only one photo that featured two clowns and a naked, long-haired man who seemed to be in an advanced state of delirium tremens. The accompanying story focused on the more bizarre aspects of the parade of 2,000 people, which drew an estimated 15,000 spectators.

At the end of our first parade, gay and lesbian participants fought each other for control of the microphone. While militant gay groups complained they had been denied permission to speak, some San Jose lesbians beat up one of the male parade organizers. Earlier in the day, the gentleman in question, Reverend Ray Broshers, had apparently slugged a lesbian who was carrying a sign he found objectionable. As Katharine Hepburn said, "What family doesn't have its ups and downs?"

In the last 20 years, many things have changed, and many have not. Although the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade has become the second largest public event in California, second



In the late '70s, with gays organizing to fight homophobic legislation such as the Briggs initiative, a 1978 ballot proposal that would have banned homosexuals from teaching in California's public schools, the tone of the yearly Gay Parade changed.

(Photo: Daniel Nicoletta)

only to the Rose Bowl Parade, coverage in the mainstream press remains dismal. Perpetuating the conspiracy of silence, local and national media provide scant coverage, or even worse, they present harrowing montages of freak-show images that reduce an important social-political celebration to what looks like a menacing throng of sociopaths. But decades of activism and dedication have shown that we can take the heat and we have no intention of getting out of the kitchen.

Change in Tone

There is no denying that the tone of the parade has changed substantially since the early '70s. In that first blush of post-Stonewall activism, there was a naive sense of optimism. African

Americans had finally nailed down the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and our turn was next. It was a simple matter of justice. We let our hair down, literally and figuratively, and found that it felt good.

The early parades were sublimely silly celebrations. We were not coming out of the closet to be *un* happy. We were proclaiming our equality while simultaneously demonstrating our right and ability to have a damn good time. In San Francisco, the universal response to that asinine question, "If you could be straight ...?" was a resounding, "No!"

But near the end of the '70s, things got serious.

In 1978, with newly elected Supervisor Harvey Milk leading the fray, the parade was an unprecedented display of lesbian and gay unity. Pride and power combined in the streets, at the supermarkets and at the polls. Sales of Florida orange juice plummeted as gays used their clout to successfully vanquish Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusade and, with the unexpected support of both Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter, defeat California's anti-gay Proposition 6. But in November, Harvey Milk was murdered. And in a few years, AIDS began to deflect our energies and drain the movement of its initial momentum.

In the early '80s, denial and a lack of information reigned supreme, but the subdued parades of '84 and '85 reflected the somber new reality of AIDS. Armed with a decade of AIDS experience and more legislative victories than defeats, we are now facing the last parade before the important 1993 March on Washington. Drag out those party shoes, but don't forget to roll up your sleeves — there's work to be done.

Pissed-Off Partiers

With a budget of \$320,000, the '92 parade will have 6,000 participants with as many as 500,000 watching from the sidelines. It will take four hours to get over 200 official groups from the foot of Mar-

ket Street to Civic Center.

Although the city provides additional police as well as a \$59,500 grant from the hotel tax fund, the parade committee reimburses the Park and Recreation Department, the Port Authority, the Department of Public Works, and the Parking and Traffic Control division for the services they provide. At the same time, the parade and related events generate hundreds of thousands of tourist dollars. After 20 years, the parade is not only a major tourist attraction but an institution. But what does it all mean?

For sheer spectacle, nothing rivals Carnival in Rio; family values have their day at Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade; homophobia and Irish chauvinism (what a concept) reign supreme in the St. Patrick's Day Parade; and at the Mardi Gras in New Orleans, loutish, drunken white trash have their one opportunity to do drag without guilt. But how does the San Francisco event fit into this cavalcade of parades, what makes it different?

The most important and most unique characteristic of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade is that almost all of the participants in this event are denied equal protection under the law. There is no national (or California) statute that makes it unlawful to discriminate against homosexuals in employment, housing or any other area. In fact, in the case of the U.S. military, institutional discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is *mandated*. Is it any wonder that more than a few of the guests at this special party are pissed-off?

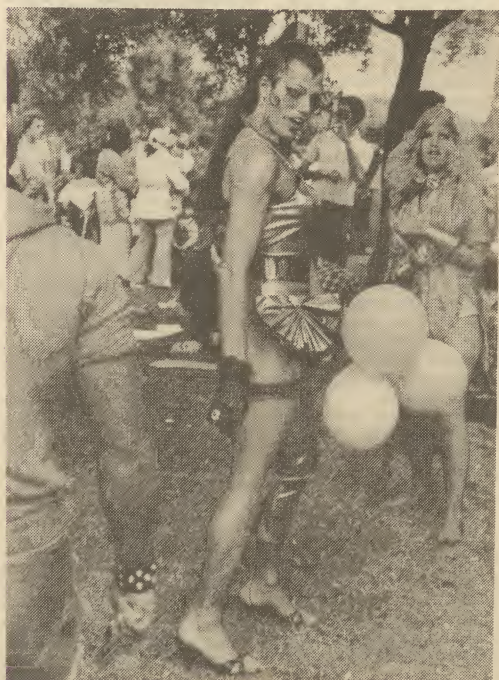
A Call to Arms

Twenty years ago, it was obvious that the case for gay rights was a simple matter of justice. It is still obvious today. But what is also apparent, especially in the light of recent events, is that justice in the United States of America is not equally applied or swiftly granted. There will be

people marching in this parade who were not even born when that first San Francisco parade made its way through the Financial District and up Polk Street, yet this young generation is still burdened with the same social and legal impediments to equality. That simple fact, with or without the AIDS crisis, should make this year's parade a call to arms.

For the young, and for those gay people who have been geographically or socially isolated from a gay-positive environment, the size and splash of San Francisco's parade can be incredibly empowering. For homophobes, it can be more frightening than Armageddon. But regardless of your point of view, the parade is not one of those annual or quadrennial events, like the Olympics, where they trot out some symbolic torch for a star turn around the stadium before playing games. The gay parade, now more than ever, represents a situation of life or death, and those who live their lives openly as lesbians and gay men carry the torch daily. Being "out," both personally and professionally, is the most important contribution a gay person can make to the education and re-programming of straight America.

From the beginning, San Francisco's parade has been politics in a party hat. But unlike 1972, when Mayor Joe Alioto refused to proclaim "Gay Liberation Day" and took no part in the celebration, the current mayor and city supervisors understand the political expediency of their participation. That is progress. But until George Bush or his successor joins us for a chorus of "That's What Friends Are For" on the steps of the Capitol, we still have a long way to go. Until that time comes, we march — both vigilant and adamant — for we know the simple justice we seek will be forthcoming. Although they may not admit it, those who oppose us know this, too. It is not a question of "if" but "when." ▼



All dressed up and ready to party at 1976 parade.

(Photo: Daniel Nicoletta)

Talented Trio

Three Latina Lesbians Talk
About Their Lives and Work

by Mónica Hernández

The Latina/o lesbian and gay community is blessed with a tremendously diverse fountain of talent. Circumstances ranging from lack of personal and community resources to the imposition of stereotypical definitions of what constitutes Latino/a and lesbian/gay identity or art have obscured the work of many artists.

The following are profiles of three Latina lesbians who have faced these boundaries, as artists, as lesbians and as women, and who seek to break the shackles of imposed limitations and to define their experience for themselves.

Rosa Flores

"The art of folklore, of literature, all that is human expression is destined for transformation, finding a balance between respecting the authentic without having to be imprisoned in the imposed roles," says dancer and writer Rosa Flores.

Flores discovered Mexican folkloric dancing at the age of 12. From the western state of Colima, Mexico, a region with its own folkloric style, she fell in love with the Huapango, a style that originates from the northeastern part of the country.

"In Colima, there was a group that dedicated itself exclusively to rehearsing Huapango. I had the opportunity to participate in a national Huapango competition as a finalist for three consecutive years. Ten years later I placed second in the competition."

Flores has performed the Huapango style throughout the Bay Area and teaches a workshop on the style at the Mission Cultural Center. Although the Huapango is less well-known than other Mexican folkloric styles, Flores has steadily built an audience through what she considers to be a universal appeal. "In the Huapango," she explains, "I find that there are rhythms that are not exclusive to the Huasteca zone of Mexico, but that are also associated with other Latin American countries. Music does not have a nationality."

While pursuing her love for the Huapango, Rosa studied journalism and literature at the University of Colima and pursued a journalistic career, writing stories and poetry in her spare time. "My interest in poetry came about when I became conscious that we live very difficult moments in life. It became a search for an answer to many doubts, question marks. The vocation of poet is to a certain point sacred, so I don't consider that I have a poet's vocation. I like to write and I try

to transmit what I feel," she says.

As a lesbian, Flores has had to reconcile her passion for folkloric dance with its heterosexist nature and the imposition of stereotypical roles for men and women by seeking new interpretations of her art form. "It is true that the traditional roles are very strong when you are not conscientious of those roles. But since I began living an openly lesbian life, I have discovered a whole series of possibilities to challenge those roles. In terms of traditional roles, as a woman it was imposed on me to dance a certain way because as a woman I had to wear a skirt, makeup, etc. But since I began living a different experience, I feel that there is opportunity to demonstrate another side. In the future I would love to work on an artistic project focused on breaking canons, dogma."

Flores feels that one way to challenge traditional roles is to perform for gay and lesbian audiences. However, she sometimes fears that "people might think that what I do is not worth it." Despite this fear, Flores says, "I have performed in environments that were completely gay and lesbian, and my participation has been well-received."

Working in mainstream Latino cultural venues is a difficult experience for Flores. "I have experienced considerable fear because in the places where we are invited to work, there are many Latinos involved and our community is saturated by prejudices, by homophobia, and we are rejected because of our sexual option — it is a risk to be openly lesbian or gay."

The impact of homophobia while working as a dancer in Mexico left its mark, limiting Flores' ability to challenge traditionalism. "Homophobia in Mexico is inevitable. Even without opening your eyes, you can see it. It is part of the culture, of the education. Homophobia is so alive in the dance community, even though a good percentage of people who dance are gays or lesbians, or at least in the case of men, they project themselves as gays, but at the same time they project homophobia. This was for me a great barrier to suggest new plans or projects. I tried to just go to the rehearsals and not embark on a sociological analysis. I never planted the possibility of declaring myself as a lesbian in the groups, because I knew that I could only expect rejection."

For Flores, expressing herself through both dance and writing is challenging. "I feel that the opportunity to be able to explore, to feel through the written word or through dance is a blessing,



(Photo: Norma Garcia)

because in both forms of expression I find harmony, movement. Movement implies cadence, rhythm, and these characteristics are similar in both. Music is in poetry and poetry is in music. I like for my body to enjoy and try to explore with rhythm, with harmony, with looseness, with beauty. At the same time, the natural phenomena or my exterior environment allows me to abstract a whole world charged with movement, with color. To combine both is a challenge because I like very much that my body's work expresses great strength, great intensity, and when I write, I similarly want to transmit strength."

Rosa talks about her goals in her pursuit of writing. "There are many themes to exploit in terms of writing stories. I am extremely interested in dealing with the topic of sexual harassment. I would like to write a story that can transmit all of my in-conformity, all of my anger about that situation." Eventually Flores would like to experiment with writing a novel.

Rosa has a vision for reinterpreting Mexican folklore within a lesbian and gay context. "It would be a dream come true to have a lesbian/gay dance company that represented Mexican folklore and dance styles from other cultures. It is a pretty powerful experience to see two women or two men interpreting our folklore. It can be the beginning of rupture with tradition, of

change."

'Marta Gomez'

Marta Gomez is a lesbian artist visiting the United States from Nicaragua.

"I don't consider myself a professional artist because I have no academic preparation in the field," she explains. "Rather, economic necessity made me realize that I have that quality."

Because of new sodomy laws in Nicaragua, "Marta" is fearful of using her real name. She left her family and joined the Sandinistas when she was 13.

She was working in television when the Sandinistas fell from power.

"Many *companeros* lost their jobs," she says. "I made a decision to leave my job at a television station, because if I didn't do it, they were going to do it, anyway. They were cleaning out the Sandinistas. Five of us, very young, saved the little money we were able to earn and mounted a drawing studio in my house and established a collective. Of the five I was the only woman."

The economic crisis in her country made it difficult to work as an artist.

"Materials are extremely expensive in Nicaragua. We were forced to work on commission. We couldn't afford to do a drawing or painting and have it lying there for months or years."

"My work was supported by people from this country. Things got so bad in Nicaragua that people were not going to prefer a piece of

"It is a pretty powerful experience to see two women or two men interpreting our folklore. It can be the beginning of rupture with tradition, of change."

— Rosa Flores

art if they could not eat, and if I had dedicated myself to being an artist, I don't know what would've become of me.

"In Nicaragua, only certain artists with renowned signatures are able to pursue an artistic career. Even though in my opinion most of this art lacked a message, people would pay for it because of the signature."

Although gay and lesbian artists abound in Nicaragua, Gomez says, "To be able to show their art, homosexual artists are very clandestine, very in the closet, and they don't dare to come out because they don't know how to face the society. I know homosexual artists who are considered 'normal' by society. No one knows they are gay."

Marta worries about the sodomy law passed in her country within the last few days.

"Let's see if when I return to Nicaragua, they aren't waiting for me at the airport to take me to jail. When I went to Mexico last year, I took with me an erotic painting of two women. I did not want to leave that painting alone en route."

"I was panicked. It was as if they had X-rays in their eyes and they were going to see that it was a painting of two naked women. It's a work of art, but they wouldn't see it that way. They look for any excuse to humiliate you."

"I am very fearful for my *companeros*, how they must be feeling about the sodomy laws. It is going to have strong implications for AIDS education. I have been told

(Continued on next page)

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

(Continued from previous page)

that the people that head gay/lesbian organizations as well as participants will be persecuted. It will give the opportunity for people to take the law into their own hands."

Although she feels a passion for drawing and painting, Gomez has been forced to set it aside and prioritize finding employment.

"I am prepared and conditioned to accept that art is not going to fill my basic survival needs. I know I have some ability, but it is not something I can rely on to survive," she says.

Yet despite her economic reality, Marta yearns to express herself through art. She is frustrated by "famous" artists who "don't take advantage of their abilities to send worthwhile messages. Sometimes I'd like to be one of them to be able to take advantage of that. I would like to express all of what I have lived as a woman, the feeling of being marginalized, humiliated, if I had the conditions that they have."

"The ironic thing is that some have the resources and do not take advantage and others would take advantage of the resources if they only had them."

"I would like to express through my art many, many things," Gomez says. "I wish I could connect a projector directly from my head and express all of what I want to do, what I have lived, and what I feel. I would like my drawings to express how as women we feel what it is to be imprisoned by the world. That the air feels different, that you see things differently."

Maritza Perez

"Stereotypes about Cubans have defined me in a way that does not represent what I am," declares Maritza Perez. "For Cubans like myself — artists, intellectuals, gays — who have an open mentality, it is frustrating because even before I open my mouth I am being judged because of my nationality."

Perez discovered art growing up in Cuba.

"My passion for the visual arts was always there, ever since I can remember," she says. "The architecture of the old house that I grew up in La Habana guided my steps in that direction."

"It started by observing the Italian tiles that covered the floor in my house the interior arks, the ceiling beams, the stained glassed windows, the peeled off walls that revealed layers of colors creating asymmetrical patterns. I would trace the designs with my finger, discovering their form."

Because of her family's decision to leave to Cuba, Maritza was not able to pursue a formal education in art until she moved to Puerto Rico on her own at 21, where she attended the School of Visual Arts in San Juan.

In 1980, she moved to San Francisco to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at the San Francisco Art Institute and graduated in 1984 with a de-



Marta Gomez worked on this mural in a Nicaraguan child care center.

"I would like my drawings to express how as women we feel what it is to be imprisoned by the world."
— Marta Gomez

gree in Printmaking. In 1990, Perez was awarded the Cintas fellowship in sculpture from the Center for International Studies in New York. She is currently in a Masters of Fine Arts program at San Francisco State University.

"Just like I do not want to be limited by stereotypes about my nationality, I do not want to be constrained by mediums. I consider myself an artist who creates by using any medium necessary to accomplish so in that sense I am a multimedia artist, creating with paintings, sculpture, mixed media installations and video."

Maritza left Cuba at the age of 16. She is filled with emotion when she describes the impact of exile on her life.

"It requires distance to see from where one comes from and to appreciate the richness of one's culture. On the other hand the loss, the yearning that comes from not being able to be where you belong, for whatever reason, is something that continually makes you dig up those roots, to seek the source of who you are."

"Exile has been a central theme in my artistic work. I am always looking for and finding myself in the same place. Since I cannot be there, I must recreate it. In some way in my work there is a piece of the rupture that I have felt. That is why there are so many loose pieces, there is never a complete body, but rather dismemberment, you find mouths, hands, eyes, legs, hearts and the need to bring

them together."

Perez considers that the current repressive environment that artists are subjected to encourages gay and lesbian artistic expression.

"Definitely at this moment when there is so much struggle and debate for liberty of expression, which is reflected in the types of grants given to individual artists, the limitations imposed on gay and lesbian artists is coming to light and it is necessary to express a different point of view. With AIDS it is inevitable to express the moments that we are living, but you run a risk in creating explicitly gay or lesbian art."

But Perez does not want to be defined by the limited parameters of her sexual orientation.

"I think there is a need for every gay and lesbian artist at some point or another to express something that has to do with his or her sexual identity, but I don't think that it is the principal focus of the majority of lesbian and gay artists. We don't want to be identified by our sexual preference. When I

create art I am expressing what has moved me in life. My life has many levels, its not only about my love for women."

Within the Latino arts community, Maritza has found the imposition of limitations, as well.

"The majority of the artistic focus in the Latino community is centered on the Chicano experience, which I consider very important, especially within the context of the history of California. The problem is that this focus leaves out a great segment of the Latino community."

"Shows that call for the participation of Latinos but whose titles reflect a Chicano identity are an example of the limitation that titles or themes may impose. There is a lack of perspective and a certain comfort in recurring to the same themes, but they don't reflect the larger picture."

"If we are talking about the limitations as Latinos of not having opportunities in the mainstream art world because our art is supposed to be different, we must open the

doors of imagination in our backyard. Otherwise we end up focusing on the same themes that the mainstream chooses when they decide to hold an exhibition of Latino art."

"We are not a one-dimensional people in any sense. We have many layers of a rich cultural heritage. This is a dialogue that is coming up more and more between artists of different nationalities, including Mexicans."

Maritza Perez is concerned not only about the limitations on freedom of expression here in the United States, but in her home country, as well.

"Things are not black and white. People do not understand that the fact of taking a certain perspective of viewing certain things that are good and criticize what is not is a way of looking at the possibilities for growth. The Latinos who are supposedly liberal do not want to accept this. No one dares to speak about the limitations for lesbians, homosexuals, for artists in Cuba. If nothing is perfect how can the Cuban Revolution be?"

"The people who help to mold and define a culture are the ones who are always censored. It is happening here, it happened in Nazi Germany, and is happening in Cuba as well."

As a Cuban artist living in the United States Perez must continuously struggle against the imposition of definitions of her art and her culture.

"I would like to create art without limitations, without being influenced by what is expected from a Latina artist, which is very difficult in this world where everyone tries to put you in boxes. I want to have the opportunity to show what I have to say, and not only in a Latino exhibition or in the lesbian and gay community, but in general and I want to be able to do so without having to sell out. Selling out is not an option." ▼



(Photo: Virginia Benavidez)

"Exile has been a central theme in my artistic work. I am always looking for and finding myself in the same place. Since I cannot be there, I must re-create it."

—Maritza Perez

Focus on the ENVIRONMENT

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans — The Largest Gay Group in the Bay Area

by Kurt Johnson

The well-known conservation group the Sierra Club, best known for its work in preserving the environment, has a little known, yet powerful branch in the Bay Area.

It's called the Gay and Lesbian Sierrans and it enlists those in the gay community who care about the environment and want to do what they can to preserve it.

The GLS, a subgroup of the Sierra Club, puts on a wide range of activities for

gays and lesbians, such as hikes through the Bay Area's natural wilderness areas, and educates its members about environmentally sensitive areas and what they can do to protect them, and to further the conservation goals of the Sierra Club.

But the GLS is not a group that is really well-known in the Bay Area.

"It's really surprising that more people don't know about us," said Jeff Golden who is on the GLS board of directors. "I think we're a pretty well-kept secret in

some quarters."

Golden said gays and lesbians and other minorities traditionally haven't played a key role in the environmental and conservation movement, but now the community is on the visible forefront in dealing with environmental concerns.

"The environmental movement is beginning to change," Golden said. "It's broadening and we (the gay community) are an indication of that."

The purpose of the GLS is to get people interested in protecting the environment.



A Gay Sierran plants trees in Golden Gate Park on Earth Day.
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Golden said too many people have gotten used to urban life and they have forgotten what an exhilarating and satisfying experience being with nature can be.

"Our purpose is to raise the consciousness of people to take care of their world and to protect it because if we don't protect it, it's gonna be fouled or it's gonna get destroyed," Golden said.

A wide array of activities is offered by the GLS. Not only do they take hikes up Mt. Diablo, bike rides and nature walks through Golden Gate Park, but they also offer men's and women's brunches once a month and other social activities so everyone can get to know each other on a more personal level.

The GLS tackles environmental concerns by educating members on threats of endangerment to some of the Bay Area's most pristine areas, and then they are encouraged to act on preserving the areas by writing letters to congress people and other officials to get protection for these lands.

One of GLS's most recent accomplishments was the effort to save Sinbad Canyon, one of the last remaining wildlife areas in Alameda County, which sits between the Pleasanton and Sunol ridges.

Earlier this month, voters went to the polls and voted against the development of 2,640 houses and an 18-hole golf course that would have been carved into that environmentally sensitive area. The vote was 81 percent in favor of saving the land.

Another major win for GLS was the saving of 640 acres of the Morgan Territory, east of Mt. Diablo, from development. Letters from GLS members were a key part in the conservation of that area.

The GLS is now working to stop a new housing plan in Yosemite National Park. The plan calls for a new city to be built in Foresta that would house 1,000 park employees. Sierra Club officials say the Park Service is placing administrative and concessionaire profits ahead of its basic

mission to protect park resources. The GLS will have a booth on Gay Pride Day where they will collect petitions to denounce the Foresta city plan.

The GLS also encourages members to participate in their volunteer service trips. In these trips, volunteers assist city park services in taking care of erosion in various locations and repairing hiking trails and doing what they can to try to prevent land slides.

"We do our part to save parks from being ruined by thoughtlessness," Golden said.

The GLS, a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, is funded almost entirely through membership dues, which is \$12 a year. It also

Too many people have gotten used to urban life and they have forgotten what an exhilarating and satisfying experience being with nature can be.

gets some funding by endowments that go to pay for the cost of publishing the newsletter. Some fundraisers are held, but monies raised from them go to specific environmental causes for which the fundraiser was intended.

The GLS, the largest gay and lesbian organization in the Bay Area, is always looking for new members. A recent barbecue in Golden Gate Park held to sign up new members was an overwhelming success.

On Aug. 15 the GLS will be hosting the "Rainbow Potluck Picnic and Introduction to Mt. Tam." Members from gay ethnic organizations will join in an easy hike and picnic on Mt. Tamalpais.

For more information about the GLS and its activities, call (510) 653-5012. ▼



Gay and Lesbian Sierrans schedule dozens of hiking excursions every year. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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Lesbian and Gay
PRIDE 1992
The Bay Area Reporter



On Guard

Queer Street Patrol Helps Reduce Castro Area Bashings

by Rachel Timoner

'We are not politically correct. We are not a consensus organization. We are not vigilantes. We are not a gang. If you have any problem with this, or any of these rules, please go away rapidly."

The above statement is given to all potential members of Street Patrol, the queer anti-violence band that stalks the Castro on weekend nights.

So what exactly is Street Patrol about?

The Bay Area Reporter decided to accompany the group on a Saturday night patrol to learn more about it.

As the entourage gathers in Rolling Pin doughnuts and prepares to hit the streets, it becomes clear that they share some genuine camaraderie. There's no question that the members of Street Patrol enjoy being together and doing their thing.

And as the patrolling begins, the talk heats up. Their

nights circling the blocks of the Castro neighborhood seem to be composed of an even mix of cruising, gossiping, joking and window shopping, with, of course, an ample dose of vigilance and preparedness.

"This is a great way to be out and around the Castro, a great way to cruise people and get all of the dish from everybody," one patroller explains.

But when the patrollers talk about why they spend their weekend nights watching the streets together, they never fail to mention their serious motivations.

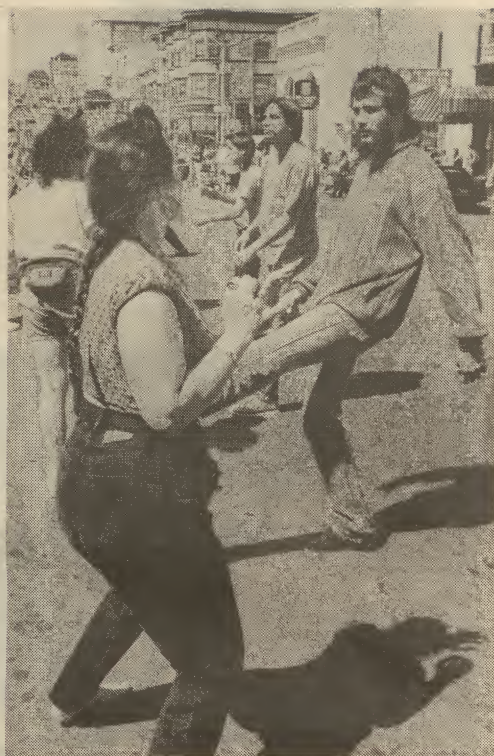
"A lot of the people involved in our group have been bashing survivors, or know people who've been bashed," one patroller says.

"I was gay bashed. They beat me up pretty good. I feel helpless a lot of the time. But this helps because they've taught me techniques to defend myself," Dale Merkle, a patroller, says.

Scanning for Violence

Nothing dangerous or frightening happened in the few hours we joined the patrol. The group mostly just marched around the neighborhood, communicating by walkie-talkie to their two-person bike patrol that was scanning the area for incidents of violence. It occasionally posted up on the sidewalk to rest or window shop, and then was off again to a different street and past a different bar.

Patrollers say the assemblage first started as a focus group of Queer Nation when a gay man was stabbed in front of Twin Peaks bar in 1990. None of the bystanders helped the victim or tried to intervene in the Twin Peaks



Street Patrol members train in Dolores Park (left). The Street Patrol's Day of Empowerment on Castro Street teaches gays and lesbians how to protect themselves.

(Photos: Rick Gerharter and Gideon Hirsch)

bashing, which led some concerned queers to think about what they could do to prevent future bashings as well as teach the broader community what it can do to help.

When the group first started, patrollers say, "nobody knew what we were doing." So they contacted the Guardian Angels, a straight patrol group with chapters nationwide. Street Patrol members feel they owe the Angels a great debt of gratitude.

"There was this feeling they were going to be homophobic, but they were nothing but fantastic," Sara Miles, a patroller, says. "They said, 'We'll train you about patrolling and you train us about gay and lesbian issues.'"

But, Miles says, the affiliation ends at training and an accumulated friendship.

"We've never had an organizational link," Miles says, acknowledging that the two patrols have both different objectives and different tactics.

"We don't tell people not to drink on the street, we don't harass sex workers. We're not cops, we're just trying to stop violence. That's a distinction we want to make," Miles says. "We're not a political group, we're not vigilantes, all we're saying is that attacking people because of their sexual orientation is a bad thing and we want to stop it."

Community Supportive

Patrollers say that the lesbian and gay community has been very supportive of their efforts.

"We have a real connection to the Castro community. People trust us," one patroller says. "People know we're going to be there, and they count on us."

And it's evident. As the group walks along, lesbians and gays on the streets greet them, obviously comfortable with their presence and glad to see them.

And what kinds of action does the patrol face on a given night?

"There are very few nights when there isn't some form of verbal abuse," Miles says. "The number of actual interventions of bashings is minimal. Our real job is to stop bashings before they happen. We do a lot of de-escalation work, as well as just staring them down, letting them know we're here. We try not to be hostile but to diffuse the situation. We do not want to make it so people have to show how macho they are."

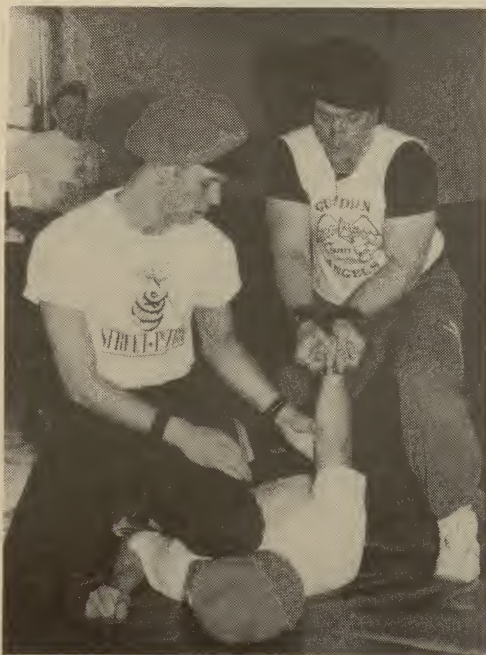
CUAV statistics show that there has been a 6 percent decline in hate crimes in the Castro since Street Patrol has been on duty.

The group says they urge bashing victims to report all hate crimes to CUAV, which works closely with Street Patrol to share information about bashings. The two organizations are working together on a map of hate crime occurrences in the city.

Self-Defense Training

Street Patrol trainings, which happen Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons, are mandatory for prospective patrollers. Any gay or lesbian

(Continued on page 76)



Members of the Street Patrol receive training from the Guardian Angels.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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A Gay Day Carol

by Kate Bornstein

My editor asks me to write a piece for the parade issue of the paper. "About transsexuals," he says, "and make it upbeat."

"Sure thing, chief," I reply in my most chipper Brenda Starr manner. "One upbeat article about transsexuals comin' right up!"

Then he mutters something about a deadline, and we get off the phone. I panic.

Parade? Transsexual? Upbeat? If ever there were a triple oxymoron, this is it, I think to myself morosely and lie my head down on my desk in front of my Macintosh.

Every time I think about the Gay Day Parade, I break out in a cold sweat with the perennial question: Who am I going to march with this year? I mean, where do I fit in, anyway?

Parades! Gay Day! Transsexuals! Bah! Humbug!

Suddenly in a swirl of taffeta and tie-dye, there stands before me the beturbaned figure of none other than ... Anna Madrigal, the fictional landlady in Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*.

"Of course, I'm fictional, darling," she says, as though reading my mind, "but I was real enough to persuade you to move here, wasn't I? Anyway, here I am — the Transsexual of Gay Day Past."

"Holy Dickens, Batman," I think to myself.

"Look," I say, "I know you're supposed to make me wanna like this stuff, but I just don't belong in this parade, Anna!"

Pressing a finger to my lips, she ushers me out the front door, which is now the door of the Market Street hotel I stayed in four years ago when I first moved to the city. It is a foggy, pre-dawn moment that only happens in San Francisco. Silently, and with great dignity, a parade of well, I don't know what they are, but they march.

"They're the ghosts of all the transsexuals who've come before us, darling," whispers Anna. And on they come. Hundreds of them! I spot a

shaman in skins and furs. And there's Joan of Arc! Jazz pianist Billy Tipton. San Francisco journalist Jack Bee Garland. My eyes begin to tear — here comes Christine Jorgensen arm-in-arm with Doris Fish, then Tippi and Lou Sullivan.

Shaking my head, I realize how many people had played with gender throughout history, and in how many ways!

In a flash of light, I return to my desk. There before me stands JUSTIN Bond! (Someone with VERY POOR TASTE might say she's drab, but I find her irresistibly urchinlike in her daisy-print sun dress and wide-brimmed straw hat.)

"Hey, hon," says the wraith, "I am the Transsexual of GAY Day Present!"

"But you're not a transsexual, JUSTIN," I exclaim.

"Of course not, silly," he answers. "I ENJOY being a boy who's being a girl who's being nothin' but TRASH! I'm the new wave of transsexuals, just like you're the OLD guard."

I nod. Somehow, he's making sense.

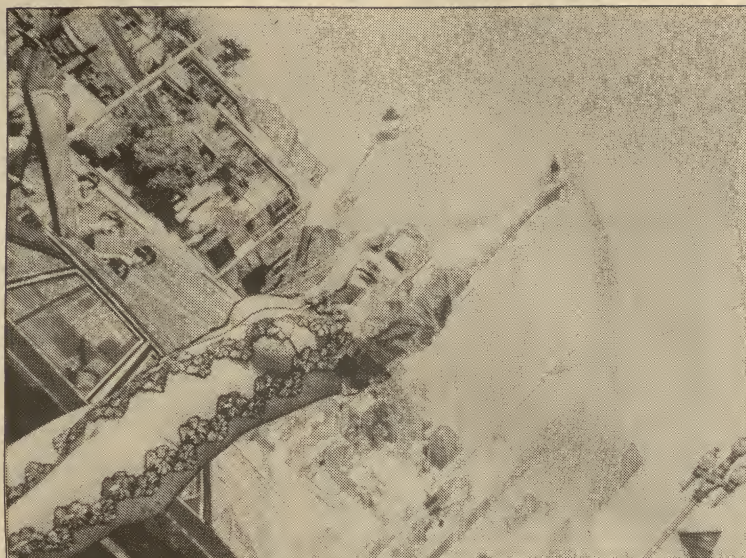
"Aw, hon, don't take it so HARD," he murmurs. "You're just not as YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL as I am, that's all. Besides, hon, what's a TRANSEXUAL, anyway?"

Well, he's made another couple of points here, and just as I am about to respond, he silences me and snaps his fingers. Suddenly, we are floating above Market Street. This year's parade is in full swing!

"See, hon, there are all kinds of 'SECKSHULS in this parade!"

Sure enough, there in the crowd is Robyn Scott, creator of *Homozone 5*, the amazing transgender comic book. Robyn's talking with DeAnn Oliver, Randie Flame and Michael A. Lumentti (Sable Liscious), the editorial staff of *Venus Castina*, "San Francisco's Gender Scene 'Zine." Passing in front of them is the ETVC contingent of the parade!

Kristiene Clarke, the Brit filmmaker, strolls the parade route. Sandy Stone, the transsexual academic from hell, is chatting with the editors and



Bambi, one of the many SF transsexuals who delighted me at my first parade, seen here at a more recent outdoor event. (Photo: Gideon Hirsch)

contributors of the brand-new *Lesbian Connection* "Boy or Girl?" issue on sex and gender. Leslie Feinberg, the passing woman and author of *Transgender Liberation*, is in from New York City for the weekend. Jamison Green, Omewenne, Veronica, Bambi, Christine Beatty, Anne Ogborn — there are more transsexuals than I can shake a stick at!

"You TIRED already, hon?" asks JUSTIN. "This wasn't any LATE NIGHT BENEFIT or anything," he adds archly. "Besides, if you can't find a place among these FOLKS, it's YOUR PROBLEM!" And with a drab smile, he's gone — only to be replaced by a small, genderless creature, maybe eight inches tall, wearing jeans and a white T-shirt!

"Transsexual of Gay Day Future?" I ask wearily. The creature merely nods and takes me by the hand. We're immediately flying over Market Street! This is parade day, but none like I've ever seen before! We swoop down low to get a better look.

"Can they see us?" I ask, breathless from the flight.

"Of course not," replies my guide. "Don't you know you're Dickens?"

"A surgeon took care of my Dickens," I mutter under my breath, but the creature must have heard me for he/she laughs heartily. "Besides," I say, "in Dickens, the ghost of Christmas future was big and scary!"

"Well," replies this tiny being, "if your editor hadn't said to keep it upbeat, that's exactly what I would have been. As it is, you have to look at a wonderful Parade Day Future!" So we look down at this amazing assembly.

At the head of the parade are the Dykes on Bikes. But not like any I've ever seen before. Some of these dykes have beards! Some of these dykes have dicks! "That can't be!" I sputter. We look further up the parade route. I nearly lose my balance!

Marching under a large

portrait of Jesse Helms is a group holding up a banner which reads "BETTER LATE THAN NEVER." "Who are they, and why Jesse Helms?" I ask.

"They're the Sons and Daughters of Jesse," replies my guide almost nonchalantly. "They've all come out in the last year after having led extremely homophobic lives."

"You mean to say that Jesse Helms is going to come out as a homosexual?" I ask.

"No, of course not!" snorts my guide. "But he *did* come out as a closet transvestite, and nearly the whole state of North Carolina now cross-dresses in tribute!"

The little one shakes its head.

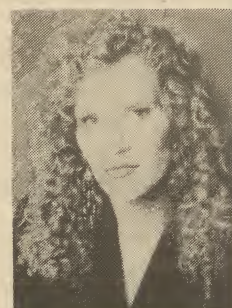
"See, there's a myth in our culture that says transsexuals are rare, and transsexuals are oddities," it says. "Kiddo, everyone's got gender issues of one kind or another. They could be upset with their bodies or their assigned roles in the culture or what they feel is an injustice. Back in your time, the dissatisfaction was called transsexuality."

"We've, most all of us, been dissatisfied with something about our gender," says my diminutive companion. "In the future, we do something about it, that's all. Go on now, march!"

And with that, I find myself back at my Macintosh, face down and groggy with sleep. It's dawn! Have I slept through the parade?!? I run to the window and throw it open — outside a young drag queen is strolling down Webster Street, wearing a Walkman.

"You there," I cry, loud enough to get through the headphones, "what day is it?" "What day is it — honey, it's Parade Day!" and she sashays down the block to some unknown '70s disco song.

And so it is Parade Day. And so, dear reader, God/Goddess Bless Us — Everyone! ▼



Transsexual, one way or another, from top: Justin Bond, Veronica Klaus, Omewenne



Film director Kristiene Clark

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

And the Winner Is ...

by Patrick D. Hoctel

Who will succeed Petuna Lambada Carnivora (Ms. Brazil) as Ms. Gay Universe 1992? While that question may not be weighing heavily on everyone's mind, you can bet the contestants for this year's title are already planning their national costumes and evening gowns and wondering what to say during the interview portion of the show.

The contest, which is sponsored by the Filipino Task Force on AIDS, is being held this year at the Palace of Fine Arts (3301 Lyon St.) on June 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are tax deductible, can be purchased in advance from Headlines for \$15 and are \$20 at the door.

Entertainment will be provided by famed school board member Tom Ammann, the Arcadia Bodybuilding Society and the legendary Tita Aida. "Tita," explains Rene Astudillo, coordinator for HIV Prevention and Education Ser-

vice, plus she'll ride in all her glory in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade that Sunday, June 28. Runners-up will receive trophies. Filipino Task Force Executive Director Jaime Geaga, Astudillo and task force Coordinator of Direct Care Services Robert Samonte hope to raise \$5,000 to \$6,000 this time around.

Besides the inherent fun of and the crazy goings on at the pageant, Astudillo views Ms. Gay Universe as a "good venue for education work that's well-attended by the Filipino community." As evidence of this, he points to Tita Aida's 10-minute question-answer AIDS skit (dealing primarily with prevention and intervention), a main part of the show.

Family Affair

Unlike drag shows in other ethnic communities, the Filipino contests are often community — and even family — affairs, with parents, brothers and sisters, and other relatives rooting for their favorite. Astudillo believes that this is because in the Philippines, gay is equated with people in drag — hairdressers and dressmakers — and drag is a source of entertainment, with performers being looked up to by many in the straight community. "(Drag) beauty pageants are an accepted form of family entertainment," echoes Geaga.

Samonte stresses another factor. "The family is so important for Filipinos. That fact overrides parents' concerns, the church, or personal beliefs and opinions. The attitude is 'This is my kid, and I'm going to support him.'"

According to the three men, though, this seemingly easy acceptance of drag is definitely double-edged for Filipino gays, who number close to 30,000 in the Bay Area and around 4,000 in San Francisco itself. Since for most Filipinos gay means drag, those not into cross-dressing are not perceived as being gay and are prone to be subjects of gossip, viewed with suspicion,



Miss Gay Universe 1990 accepting her title. Who will succeed Petuna Lambada Carnivora?

unlike those in drag who are tolerated.

Necessary Services

With the expected money from the 1992 pageant, the Filipino Task Force on AIDS, which is funded by grants from the Centers for Disease Control and the San Francisco Public Health Department, hopes to expand its services. The task force has been functioning for four years, mainly through volunteers. A full-time staff has only been in existence for a year.

Expanded services are necessary because of the high incidence of AIDS among the Filipino population. The task force's fact sheet "Filipinos and AIDS" states that "Filipinos top the list in the number of reported Asian AIDS cases in San Francisco, a trend that is duplicated on a statewide level. Of the 239 Asian and Pacific Islander (API) AIDS cases in San Francisco, 94, or 39.3 percent, are Filipino. In the entire state of California, 37 percent of 469 API AIDS cases are among Filipinos.

"Underreporting of Fil-

ipino AIDS cases is a valid concern that may mask the true incidence of the disease in the community. The fatalism, shame and denial prevalent among Filipinos may account for personal decisions to forego medical treatment in favor of secrecy or solitary confinement. The 94 reported cases may only be the tip of the iceberg. ...

"Despite these statistical realities, health agencies and service providers continue to encounter cultural barriers, myths and misconceptions about the epidemic as well as behavioral patterns that run counter to current knowledge about preventing the spread of this deadly disease."

Golden Opportunity

The task force staff sees the contest as a golden opportunity, both as a fundraiser and as a vehicle to educate in a non-threatening manner. They note that people learn better if they're having a good time.

For Astudillo, the contest's success might mean — besides more money — more safer sex small group (6-8) workshops for gay and bisexual men as well as workshops among the greater Filipino community. It could also impact the direct outreach done by the task force, such as going to bars, parties, picnics and other social functions. And, of course, more cash translates into more fliers, press releases, brochures and articles for newspapers, especially on HIV-positive Filipino men and how they're coping.

For Samonte, whose intervention work centers on helping the patient after he or she's tested positive, Ms. Gay Universe could mean more funds for support groups, one-on-one counseling, home outreach, immigration and translation, housing and emergency funds. And since the organization may be affected by the \$20-million cut the Health Department is being asked to make in its general fund, all monies are welcome.

Further Involvement

Astudillo's and Samonte's involvement in the Filipino community extends even further to *Barangay*, the monthly year-old newsletter/zine of the Filipino gay men's group of the same name, of which they're co-editors. Recent issues have included interviews with hunky San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus member Domenic Viterbo and recent Barangay convert Tony Santiago, who confesses his liking for "good-looking Pinoyos." The March issue contained a thoughtful essay on family and religion by Astudillo, and naturally, Tita Aida's column is always prominently featured.

Barangay's co-editors describe the newsletter as a "link among the members, their only means of direct communication." For Samonte and Astudillo the 'zine provides them with a way to reach both their target population and the larger community, too, as other Filipino groups have requested copies of *Barangay* for their clients.

The Filipino Task Force on AIDS and *Barangay* have established a mutually beneficial relationship. The task force helps the men's group with certain resources (com-



missions for the task force, means aunt in Filipino and 'Aida' means AIDS. He describes the drag character as a "Filipino Dear Abby" who gives advice on AIDS issues. (The co-emcee of the pageant is also the subject of a task force brochure, "Dear Tita Aida," in which, among other things, she tells a horny young man interested in blow jobs that "if your taste calls for cream, go to your nearest cafe.")

In 1990, 20 contestants vied for the coveted title won by Petuna, and \$5,000 was raised for HIV education, prevention and outreach for the Filipino community. This year's victor will take home a \$1,000 cash

Dear Tita Aida



'Tita Aida' provides AIDS education.



BE INFORMED INGAT LANG STAY HEALTHY

FROM DARKNESS... NEW LIFE!
Gay Filipino Americans are among those at highest risk for AIDS.

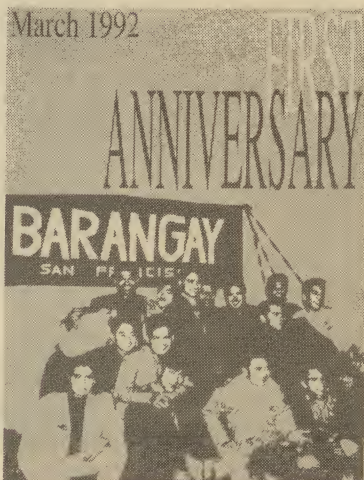
puters, graphics, office space, etc.) and in return, the group allows the task force access to their soirees, like the hugely successful Thanksgiving and Christmas parties. All in all, a sterling example of the "you-scratch-my-back-and-I'll-scratch-yours" school. Such cooperation among the task force staff, contest organizers and *Barangay* members has helped make the Filipino gay community much more visible in the larger and incredibly diverse San Francisco gay community, not to mention a force to be reckoned with. ▼



FILIPINO MEN ON FILIPINO MEN

Interview with
Domenic Viterbo
& Tony Santiago

FEBRUARY 1992
BARANGAY



Barangay is the monthly magazine of the Filipino gay male community.

High Tech Gays

More Than Just High Tech

by Rachel Timoner

Boasting more than 500 members and activities that range from political discussions to camping to theater outings, High Tech Gays serves as a prominent social and political force among South Bay gays and lesbians, both inside and outside the computer industry.

The nine-year-old San Jose-based organization has a strong history of advocating for lesbian and gay recognition and equality in high-tech corporations, as well as providing a chance for lesbians and gays to take time away from their work in a fun and social environment.

"It seems there's something going on just about every week," Don Nelson, the group's president, described. "We do very little related to high tech. You don't have to be high tech to join — everybody is welcome."

Nelson said that High Tech Gays' general membership meetings, which take place on the second Sunday of every month, are opportunities for the group to meet with guest speakers and talk about issues of interest.

Though it is strictly non-partisan, the organization has representatives on various South Bay commissions and works to educate the community about candidates and issues that it feels are particularly important to lesbian and gay people.

One crucial part of the group's political history is its contribution toward the formation of lesbian and gay employee organizations in various corporations in the area, including Apple, Tandem,

Digital and Lockheed.

"People will be at work and not know who the other gays are. At a High Tech Gays meeting they can network and form a group within their company," Nelson said.

But, Nelson stresses, the social aspects of High Tech Gays are just as important as its political functions.

"It's a real fun group. We have all kinds of fun activities like our dessert orgies, where everyone brings their favorite dessert and of course we have judging," Nelson said.

Nelson said that he got involved in the group several years ago after he read a story in the Bay Area Reporter about High Tech Gays.

"I was frustrated with the bar scene. I didn't think that was too much fun. After I read the article, I went to a meeting, and they were discussing whether to get involved in a lawsuit about security clearance problems for gay employees. I thought, 'This is for me. This is my kind of action!'"

"It's been a really fun group and an important group in terms of the gay and lesbian community as a whole," he said. "We've shown the entire Bay Area that the South Bay community is one to be reckoned with."

High Tech Gays will be marching in San Francisco's Freedom Day Parade. They have an electronic bulletin board listing information and upcoming activities. Call (415) 572-9594 or (408) 374-6608. The group can be reached by phone at (408) 993-3830. ▼



Members of the Lesbian and Gay Employee Association at Levi Strauss (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Working Out

Gay, Lesbian Employees Coming Out of the Closet

by David O'Connor

We're coming out in the most unlikely of places.

From factory lines to corporate board rooms, from Fortune 500 executives to the highest ranks of the U.S. military, lesbian and gay employees are coming out and organizing like never before.

And lots of them will be on hand to march in San Francisco's 23rd Annual Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade.

"The corporate closet is on the verge of collapsing because more and more gay people, ranging from assembly-line workers to lesbian and gay executives to vice presidents, are willing to come forward and network and organize within the corporate framework," Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force said.

Marching in the San Francisco parade will be a contingent of employee groups from different companies, including Apple Computer Corp., Chevron, Levi Strauss, Pacific Gas and Electric as well as High Tech Gays, a Silicon Valley inter-company group, and San Francisco's gay-oriented Golden Gate Business Association.

The contingent's participation in the parade will kick off NGLTF's new Workplace Initiative, an umbrella organizing effort for lesbian and

gay employee groups.

"Our goal is to help individuals form groups within the workplace and assist them in becoming more visible and work with them to obtain equal rights and benefits with their companies," said Peter Wichern of NGLTF's San Francisco membership committee, which is organizing the Work-

place Initiative.

The new project ties into what Bray sees as a growing willingness among gays and lesbians to come out in the workplace. Bray said that there has been an emergence of lesbian and gay employee groups at businesses across the country. These groups have been instrumental in

(Continued on page 76)



High Tech Gays marches in this year's San Jose Pride Parade. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



Members of the Gay Employee Group at Apple Computer (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

GAY, LESBIAN NATIVE AMERICANS Reconnecting With Their Heritage

by Rachel Timoner

In January, members of Gay American Indians spearheaded the effort to establish a new American Indian Center in San Francisco, with the dream of creating a non-profit social and cultural meeting place for all Native Americans in the area. The new center would replace the American Indian Center, which closed its doors two years ago.

Randy Burns, a longtime activist of the Northern Paiute tribe who co-founded Gay American Indians with Barbara Cameron, met recently with the Bay Area Reporter to talk about those efforts as well as other burning issues within the lesbian, gay and bisexual Native American community.

Cameron is also executive director of Community United Against Violence.

"A group of us met at the Women's Building to start up a new center that would be open to all of the diverse members of our community—old, young, all colors, sexual orientations and sexes—a social gathering place where we can learn to sing and dance, promote our artists, a place for writers, a performing arts center," Burns explained.

Burns said that the Bureau of Indian Affairs' relocation plan of the 1940s and 1950s, which was aimed at assimilating Native Americans into mainstream American soci-

ety, has caused many young Native Americans in San Francisco to lose touch with their culture.

"You could say it was forced relocation. The bureau stripped them of their culture, their language, enrolled them in Bureau of Indian Affairs schools, pushed them to the cities," Burns said. "You have third-generation San Francisco families of Natives now. A lot of the youth today have lost their language and culture, their tribal Indian identity."

And that's one reason why he and many others feel it is so crucial to create a long-lasting community center where people can reconnect with their heritage.

Since that first meeting in January, the center's steering group, which is led by a lesbian/gay and progressive coalition, has worked on its articles of incorporation and has secured donated office space as well as two major donors to the center.

"Down the road we'll be looking for a warehouse-type building for the actual center. To hold powwows, Native conferences, poetry readings, dance performances and gallery space," Burns described.

Burns said he is very optimistic about the center's future, given the spirit of the group that's working to make it happen.

"One of the things I like about working with this

group of people, both straight and gay, is that we see each other as equals. A lot can be accomplished through community effort. You can break down a lot of internalized racism. This has been a way for all of us to acknowledge and work on our homophobia and internalized racism. We've all learned to respect each other."

Burns asks all concerned Native Americans to participate in the working group's "Town House" meeting on June 26 at 6 p.m. at the Women's Building, where they will finalize the articles of incorporation and by-laws for the center.

Although the center is one of the biggest projects coming out of Gay American Indians at the present time, Burns said the 17-year-old volunteer-run organization always has several projects happening at once.

"When we were first started, it was around social and cultural issues, and somehow we ended up doing general social service work, referrals for medical and dental care and housing, as well as advocacy around local and tribal litigation concerning child custody, and lesbian and gay single-parent issues," Burns said. "Many of our members come from the reservation and have land rights and mineral/oil rights. We also advocate for the homeless and indigent."

And because some of the



Randy Burns of Gay American Indians (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

group's members find problems accessing mainstream substance abuse and mental health services, Gay American Indians does in-service trainings with social workers and therapists around lesbian/gay and Native American cultures.

Since the first Native American AIDS case was reported in 1985, Gay American Indians have dedicated themselves to fighting the epidemic and supporting their sisters and brothers who have the disease.

The group, which is providing emotional and practical support to 31 people with AIDS, works closely with the American Indian AIDS Institute, which, with funding for only one case manager, provides case management and client advocacy services to 37 people. To date, Gay American Indians has lost 28 members in the Bay Area to AIDS, a figure that leads Burns and others to question the official statistics about Native Americans and AIDS.

The CDC counts 352 Native Americans with AIDS nationwide as of March 1992, including 50 women and nine children. But Burns points out that those numbers come from Indian Health Services, which admits it only serves 42 percent of all Native peoples. And he notes that Los Angeles and Alameda counties, two places with the highest density of Native peoples in the country, do not even have a Native American category on their statistics sheets. Many are misclassified as Latino, "other" or "unknown." He believes that Native women are particularly under-documented.

"The San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS Office reports 28 cases of AIDS among Native Americans, only one of which is a woman. I know that the number is higher," Burns said.

He knows that many Na-

tive Americans are not accessing Native American AIDS services because they fear their family or employer will find out, and that many do not relate to the AIDS agencies that were founded with a basis in European culture.

"Many of our members do not access services at mainstream agencies like Shanti and the AIDS Foundation. It has to do with how Native people identify with an agency. If there's no person they can relate to, I bet you they won't go back," Burns said.

In addition, economics force many Native Americans to forego health care altogether.

"Many of our members do not have insurance. They're going to spend their money first on food and shelter—medical care comes last. We die quicker because we access the system very late, if at all," he said.

"I believe that the underreporting that goes on nationwide means that we have not seen the tip of the iceberg. This epidemic could wipe out whole sections of the Native community, like smallpox did at the turn of the century."

And in San Francisco, the need for more funding for AIDS agencies that serve Native Americans is becoming ever more dire.

"Gay Indian men who are diagnosed on the reservation come here to get better treatment. On the reservations, there are no support systems and there is a lot of homophobia. So there's a large influx to San Francisco," Burns said. "Our club is now reaching over 200 members and about three-fourths are from the reservation."

Lesbian and gay Native Americans are even less adequately served when it comes to facing dual diagnosis of substance abuse and HIV, according to Burns.

"Many recovery programs

(Continued on page 76)



Randy Burns: "We've all learned to respect each other."

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Lesbian and Gay
PRIDE 1992
The Bay Area Reporter



Lesbian moms with staffers of Lyon-Martin's gay parenting program.
(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)



Judge Mary Morgan (left), Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg with son Benjamin.

(Photo: Barbara Maggiani)

Lesbian and Gay Parents

Pushing a New Definition of Family

by Rachel Timoner

The Lesbian and Gay Parenting Program of Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services provides education and support for queers who want kids.

Through the program's annual series, Lesbians and Gay Men Choosing Children, lesbians and gay men who want children will have the chance to meet with experts about their options, interests, concerns and rights when parenting.

"There are all kinds of ways to parent. It's great to see how creative people have been in defining family and creating structures that work for them," Cynthia Underhill, acting coordinator of the program, said.

gram, said.

According to Underhill, the parenting movement began about 15 years ago when many lesbians were having their children taken away from them by the courts.

Lesbians began what was called "women controlled conception," by forming informal networks to find anonymous donors and help each other inseminate. Those networks have evolved during the past decade into the fertility clinics of today.

"Lesbian and gay parenting is a radical movement, though it's not always perceived that way because it's a personal issue. People don't often decide to parent for political reasons. But lesbian and gay parenting is really

pushing new definitions of family," Underhill said. "There's a perception that if we decide to be parents, we're taking our energy away from the movement. I firmly believe that the way we make a difference is by being ourselves and telling the truth."

Although there are no official statistics about lesbian and gay families, Underhill estimated that at least 2,000 children have been born to or adopted by lesbian or gay families in the United States.

As prospective parents have considered their options through the years, trends have emerged as to the choices they're making about family.

Underhill said that lesbians and gay men started

working together as parents either having sex or inseminating at the beginning of the 1980s. Until recently, the AIDS epidemic made that option much less popular.

"In the Bay Area in the past five years I've heard more and more about lesbians and gay men who have found each other to create a family," Underhill said. "When we work together as a community, we work together as individuals."

According to Kevin Gogin, a member of the program's board of directors, the father of a three-year-old girl and director of Support Services for Gay and Lesbian Youth in the school system (Project 10), there has been a dramatic increase in the number of men choosing to parent during the past four years.

"In large numbers gay men are realizing that they have the option to be parents. The Parenting Program gives them a real sense of courage and empowerment," he said.

Many difficult issues can arise when lesbians and gay men choose to have children, and the seminars, which cover issues like single parenting versus co-parenting, using known versus unknown donors, legal issues related to parenting, how to get pregnant, options for adoption, and how to connect with other lesbians or gay men to form a family, can help work some of those out.

"There are a lot of factors in the discussion. We offer all the options and support people no matter what choice they make," Underhill said.

In addition to the annual seminar series, the Lesbian and Gay Parenting Program offers ongoing support groups, lesbian childbirth

"There are all kinds of ways to parent. It's great to see how creative people have been in defining family and creating structures that work for them."

—Cynthia Underhill



Lesbian mom Joy Schulenberg with daughter

(Photo: Barbara Maggiani)

classes and periodic workshops.

Anyone interested can contact the program at 565-7674 for information about the services or for referrals. ▼



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Lesbian and Gay
PRIDE 1992
The Bay Area Reporter

Reaching Our Limits

Reflections on the Rodney King Verdict

by Karl Bruce Knapper

It's been two months since the verdict in the Rodney King police brutality case and its aftermath, and I'm just starting to emerge from the anger, depression and numbness that I felt upon hearing the news from that American microcosm: Simi Valley. My more cynical half — the half that would agree with George Bernard Shaw's statement that "the power of accurate observation is commonly called cynicism by those who have not got it" — was certainly not surprised by such an incredible verdict. What more could I have expected from the racist society that is America?

But my more naive and idealistic half is still incredulous. I still have trouble believing what two months of unresolved anger and disappointment has not changed — that a jury of non-peers in the lily-white enclave of Simi Valley was able to repeatedly watch a video of a man being mercilessly beaten and find that it was within the purview of Los Angeles police procedure to use that kind of excessive (though not by LAPD standards) force to subdue a person.

That the prosecutors were able to convince these average Americans that what they were seeing with their own eyes was not what they were seeing should give one pause to begin with, but the fact that they found what they saw to be acceptable police procedure really shook what little faith I foolishly still had in the American system of "justice."

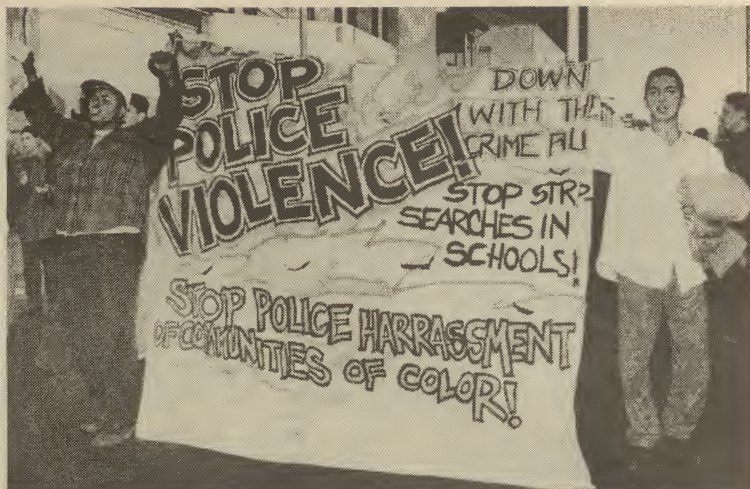
Bringing It Home

Two events this year have really brought home for me my status (in the eyes of the dominant culture) as a second-class citizen. First, Pete Wilson's veto of AB 101 explicitly spelled out for me that I had no right to expect equal treatment under the law as a gay man. Then the Rodney King verdict drove the knife home by reaffirming my nothingness as a black man.

Of course, I was never silly enough to believe that Wilson (Republican or not) would really sign AB 101, which is due no doubt to the fact that, as an African-American person, I have become all too familiar with the ring of false promises and empty rhetoric. Still, it's one thing to subconsciously know that my life/existence (as an African American and as a queer) isn't worth much in this country but quite another to have it so blatantly spelled out for me. Then again, what more should I expect from a country that was founded by men who thought that I only constituted three-fourths of a human being.

The main thing this madness has done is to undermine my faith in America, mainstream society and white people (as a monolithic identity, which I know they're not). It has really weakened or discouraged my natural (and admittedly overly idealistic) belief in the possibilities for harmonious coexistence and socially progressive political coalition-building between myself and a seemingly unapologetically racist white society.

Usually I turn to Bernice Johnson Reagon's essay, "Coalition Politics: Turning the Century," when I'm in the socio-political doldrums, but lately her positive and uplift-



Protesting the Rodney King verdict in the Mission before group arrests began May 1.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

ing guidance and advice have not been working. Rationally, I understand that you don't go into coalition politics because it's fun and you like it, but because it's the only real way to survive in a multiculturally diverse world. Emotionally, though, it's often hard to rationalize or understand the masochism of trying to work outside the safety and comfort of one's own communities.

I understand that the use of identity politics as a means of achieving group consciousness, when taken to its logical extreme, leads to segregation and separatism, which are nice in their homogeneity and lack of cross-cultural/interracial/cross-gender/etc. conflict, but the fact is that we live in a world that is too small and crowded to pretend that their aren't others out there with whom we will eventually have to deal. At the same time, there is definitely a need for retreating to communities that are based on a shared identity to rejuvenate one's soul and work on issues of common concern.

Multiple Identities

Malcolm X said that all

"people have the same goals, the same objective. That objective is freedom, justice and equality. All of us want recognition and respect as human beings. We don't want to be integrationists. Nor do we want to be separatists. We want to be human beings."

"Integration is only a method that is used by some groups to obtain freedom, justice, equality and respect as human beings. Separation is only a method that is used by other groups to obtain freedom, justice, equality or human dignity. Our people have made the mistake of confusing the methods with the objectives."

The problem with retreating to communities based on identity is that very few of us have identities that are monolithic; many of us have multiple identities. How then to choose, if it were possible, which identity to place above the others. As a black man, I often feel alienated by the white lesbian, gay and bisexual community because of a perceived (and often true) ignorance about and neglect for my racial heritage and concerns. Yet as a gay man, I also feel alienated by the straight African-American community because I refuse to deny or suppress my gay identity.

I felt distanced from all the protests around the AB 101 veto because, though I was thrilled that the gay community had taken to the streets rather than accept such an insult meekly and passively, I also knew that even if AB 101 had passed, my problems as a gay man in this society would not have been solved. After all, there have been civil rights laws on the books in this country for over two decades (though the impact of these has been slowly but surely eroded by the Supreme Court), yet people of color in this country still haven't gotten to the promised land. And AB 101 would have done nothing to alleviate the problems that I face as an African American.

I felt equally aloof from much of the protesting around the Rodney King verdict because, though (again) I

was emotionally buoyed by the fact that people seemed to be outraged by such a judicial travesty, I felt that my gay identity was being ignored in the anger. Where was America's outrage when AB 101 was vetoed? Why did I not hear my oppression mentioned in the long litany of isms that I heard recited every time I went to a rally? Why didn't people seem to make the obvious connections between the oppressions that queers, people of color and so many others suffer at the hands of this society?

State of Rage

The only thing that I heard in common was the rush to condemn the violent expression of anger. In a country founded by repressed Puritans, we are always quick to denounce anger, no matter how understandable such anger is. To paraphrase James Baldwin, to be a person of color and relatively conscious in this world is to be in an almost constant state of rage — a rage not only at what is happening around one at all times but at the most extraordinarily cruel and criminal indifference that is perpetrated upon us every day of our lives, the indifference and ignorance of most white people. The same analogy can easily be made for the anger that some gay people feel toward straight people and the homophobic society heterosexuals have created. The first problem that many oppressed people then must face is learning to control this rage so that it doesn't destroy us.

But as James Baldwin also said, "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing is changed until it is faced," and it is time for America to face the anger of its oppressed citizens. Of course, that would mean really listening to our anger, which our so-called leaders steadfastly refuse to do. They deflect or dismiss our anger and criticism, effectively shutting down any constructive channels of dialogue that might emerge. Is it our angry manner that keeps them from hearing and understanding us, as Audre Lorde asks in

(Continued on page 76)



Governor Pete Wilson's veto of AB 101, which prompted the actions above, explicitly spelled out for me that I had no right to expect equal treatment under the law as a gay man.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

After Cosby, A Different World

by Ming-Yeung Lu

Her loneliness, but more so her vague determination to make it, is what reminds me of myself in Yanni. But she is more of a reluctant immigrant than I was.

After high school in Britain, I chose to come here for college; I wanted to discover America. Yanni had no say in the matter. When her parents' dream of coming to America was approved two years ago, she came along with them and left behind her life in China.

"At first I hated my parents because I never understood why they wanted to come here," Yanni, who is 19 now, told me in a North Beach cafe over the first Italian soda she'd ever had. "After we got here, they didn't let me go to school. I had to work in a sewing shop with my mother to pay back the money we owed my grandfather who brought us here. I remember thinking then that if I couldn't go to school that was it — I'd have no future."

Yanni's mother still works six days a week in a garment factory. Her father is a waiter at a Chinese restaurant in San Mateo.

"I seldom see my parents and I never tell them my *sumsee* ('matters of the heart'). Before, I wished they could show me the way in America. Now I've come to accept that with their level of education, that's all they can do," she said.

I met Yanni at an ESL (English as Second Language) class in Chinatown. I was there to speak to the class — all new immigrant Chinese youth — about being gay. One of the students had written in his essay that AIDS is God's punishment on homosexuals. That student, however, could not make it to class that evening, but I was told that

he had already had a heated exchange with the gay pastor who spoke there the week before.

"You're so educated. Before you came to speak I had never met a gay person. After knowing you, gay people seem not so different from everybody else," one student told me.

What Made It OK to Be Gay

Yanni confirmed what I had already sensed that night. In the eyes of these new immigrant youth, my education, and not my sexuality, was what made the difference, what made it OK for me to be gay. Instead of asking me explicit questions about gay sex — perhaps they were just too shy to do so — they wanted to know where I had gone to school. Their eyes flashed when in my learned modesty I reluctantly told them, "Stanford."

Rose, the instructor who invited me to speak, said after class, "Many of us here went to Cal — for these kids that's a big deal. Stanford is just another world, totally out of reach."

Yanni told me she has two ambitions: to get more education and to return to China for a visit. China has to wait, but soon she'll be graduating from high school. Next fall she plans to take classes at City College, where many students are like her — new immigrants from Asia. Eventually she does want to attend university.

"I'm worried my English is not good enough for college," she said.

Yanni has few opportunities to practice her English; her life is confined mostly to Chinatown.

"Someone recommended me to work as a bank teller downtown. But even the idea of going into that place, the bank, scares me," she said.



Yanni Zhao at the Cafe Flore on her first visit to the Castro earlier this month. (Photo: Rick Gerhart)

In her two years living in San Francisco, Yanni has never set foot in the Castro.

Many times when I speak to a group about being gay, something in my audience's response sheds a different light on my activism. If beauty is in the eye of the beholder, so is identity — who I am is relative to whom I am talking.

**Yanni has two
ambitions:
to get more
education and
to return to
China for a
visit.**

Contrast, for example, the students in the ESL class in Chinatown with those at the private high school where I participated in a full-day conference on "Sexual Minority Youths and Alternative Families." During my presentation there, a student — who identified himself as "straight" —

lectured me on why I should be offended by the "stereotype" of the flamboyant football commentators on "In Living Color." I read him, stating that it's very possible for me to feel immensely uplifted to hear those queens rave over the guys' butts; in any case, the only reasonable reason to watch a football game, OK?!

Common Language

Between me and those students, who were mostly white and who would probably go on to places like Stanford, our common language was not Cantonese but the comforting lingo of the politically attuned. In their eyes, I was the gay person whom they could accept into their world.

Yanni has not acquired that kind of eloquence and confidence yet. When in our conversation she did mention "freedom," it was in reference to what she saw as the abuse of freedom. "I think people have too much freedom in America; they don't know how to use it in a responsible way," she said about the recent riots in LA.

Although she disagreed strongly with the verdict, she thought the looting and the destruction was totally unproductive.

Yanni confessed that she knows very little about what rights she has, and what she can do if she is attacked or discriminated against (schools don't teach that). For someone like Yanni, who has never entered a police station, and is probably afraid to do so, the way to bypass police brutality is to be a "good citizen," to avoid conflict, not unlike most people in China who try to stay away from authorities ("politics") as much as possible.

Many new immigrants cope with life on the margins by holding on to this "self-reliant" attitude, while the so-called "work ethic" sustains the hope of a better life in America: If you work (or study) hard, you'll make it. Even if you don't, at least you've tried.

To a new immigrant who has few survival skills, the choices are stark: you either move upward socially or you end up being the underclass

in America. For years the American government and industrialists have ignored the fact that there is a Third World within this First World, while the Third World out there is rapidly transforming. The "unskilled" in this country bear the major burden of this ignorance.

Ironically, someone like Yanni may end up less well-off in this country than if she had stayed in China, where she would become part of the emerging middle class.

It was already after six when Yanni and I finished our conversation at the cafe. North Beach became filled with downtown corporate types heading for their after-work drinks. Before we parted at the edge of Chinatown, with me going to City Lights bookstore and Yanni to her ESL class, I tried to impart courage to her to go and take the test at the bank the next day. But she never went.

Going Beyond Ourselves

I went to that ESL class that night knowing that I wasn't alone; I'd the courage to come out because there were others before me and beside(s) me. I thought of one of my best friends in GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance), George Choy, who grew up in Chinatown — both his parents know and accept that he is gay. This community of Asian/Pacific gay and bisexual men is what I have discovered in America.

Yet I hope that my encounter with the new immigrant youth demonstrates, if not anything else, the importance of going beyond ourselves in our gay politics. Indeed, who are we (not) talking to? Have we become insulated in our successes, always preaching to the converted? Or have we become satisfied with picking the easy target, the chosen arch-enemy, be it the "white man" or the Jesse Helmses of the world? How far are we willing to really "come out" of our self-protecting gay life?

Where only the ashes remain to tell of the rage and pain, there is no room for guilt or pity, but a lot to build a different world which is the here and now. ▼



Yanni and friends drop by the Muscle System for a workout.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

PRESERVING THE PAST

Gay and Lesbian Historical Society Keeps Community History Alive



Bill Walker (left) and Nan Boyd examine some of the extensive archives at the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

by David O'Connor

Where can you browse through the personal photographs of poet and writer Elsa Gidlow, a lesbian born at the turn of the century who in her journals recounts life with her lovers and friends in San Francisco in the 1920s?

Or where will you find the complete writings of Mark Hippler, *Bay Area Reporter* columnist and commentator on all aspects of life, who died of complications from AIDS in 1991?

How about the audio tapes of Randy Alfred's weekly gay talk radio program that was broadcast on KSAN during the 1970s and 1980s?

These are only a sample of the wide-ranging archives available at the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California nestled in its basement office at the Redstone Building, 2940 16th St.

"I was concerned that no one was preserving the history of the gay and lesbian community," said archivist Bill Walker, who co-founded the Historical Society in 1985. "This is an issue that I have a real passion about. There is a need for putting a historical consciousness on the gay and lesbian agenda."

"In this society today, people are a-historic and it is a real disservice politically, socially and culturally when you're trying to effect change."
—Bill Walker

"In this society today, people are a-historic and it is a real disservice politically, socially and culturally when you're trying to effect change," said Walker, who has a master's degree in library science focusing on archivist administration.

To make sure our past is preserved, the Historical Society

collects records from individuals, organizations, communities and social movements. Documents include unpublished journals, manuscripts, correspondence, photographs, film and video, oral histories and business records of all sorts.

The Historical Society's Archives are open two days each week: Wednesday from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday from 2-5 p.m. The Historical Society asks that people call 626-0980

to make an appointment for a visit.

In addition to maintaining its archives, the Historical Society also produces a newsletter entitled *Our Stories*, which includes articles on lesbian and gay history, personal reminiscences, reviews of new books, notices of new acquisitions to the archives and reports on current research by scholars and Historical Society members.

A new project aims to capture on audio and video tape the life stories of gays and lesbians in the Bay Area. Nan Boyd heads this oral history program, talking to people about how San Francisco became the gay capital it is today.

The Historical Society also sponsors public events such as lectures, slide shows, video and film presentations, workshops, readings and an annual dinner honoring individuals and organizations that have contributed to the gay and lesbian community.

The Historical Society recently completed a joint microfilm project with the University of California-Berkeley. In the \$24,000 project, the Historical Society microfilmed almost all of the major lesbian and gay periodicals produced in Northern California since the early 1950s.

Walker said that although society in general seems disinterested in history, there is a growing interest in history among gays and lesbians.

"People are more aware of the importance of history," Walker said. "That's partly because of the epidemic because you realize these people have passed on and who is going to remember?"

The Historical Society is run completely by volunteers and depends on membership dues for funding. There are about 400 members and a membership drive is under way.

The Historical Society also holds fundraisers and receives some grant money.

A move might be in the Historical Society's future. Walker said that the city has asked the Historical Society to move into the city's new main library when it is completed. Negotiations between the city and the Historical Society are under way.

Walker said that the Historical Society is concerned about maintaining control of the organization, but benefits of being housed in the library would include greater visibility and easier access for most people.

Whether the Historical Society moves it will continue its work of preserving the experiences of lesbians and gays.

"The thing that fascinates me is the whole issue of who decides what's important and what gets saved," Walker said. "Archivists decide what records are kept, and it's from these records that history is made." ▼



Matthew Lore, volunteer, with some of the archives' records.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

FAMILY PRIDE

'Making History' Celebrates the Men and Women
Whose Heroic Actions Have Allowed
Gay Life to Flourish

by John F. Karr

There couldn't have been a better kickoff for this year's Gay and Lesbian Pride Week celebrations than the publication of Eric Marcus' wonderful new *Making History*. These interviews with nearly 50 of the men and women whose heroic and persistent actions over four decades have allowed gay life to flourish are exactly what we're proud of.

Marcus' collection spotlights the heartbreak and profound joy with which our rights have been won. Our parades exist because of the stirring actions these people relate, and we march to celebrate them.

Yet most of their names aren't known, and most of their stories haven't been told — until now. *Making History* brings permanent honor to these men and women, and telescopes in one volume the events of the fight for gay and lesbian rights since 1945.

A large portion of the excitement of *Making History* lies in its unexpected inclusions. The movers and the shakers are here, of course, but there are also the quiet, self-effacing people whose contributions were nearly unknown. There are also a number of heterosexual allies in our fight, including mothers, wives, lawmakers, politicians and clergymen.

Our Pioneers

Making History joins gay and lesbian pioneers whose names ought to be iconic, like Chuck Rowland, Frank Kameny, Barbara Gittings and Kay Lahusen, with more famous friends like Dr. Evelyn Hooker, Abigail Van Buren and Bishop John Shelby Spong. Also telling their stories in *Making History* are gay and lesbian athletes, actors and authors, nuns and nurses, sissies, sailors, sexologists and screenwriters, as well as born-again Christians, congressmen, attorneys, debutantes and drag queens. It's quite a group.

Yet that spread of people is understandable. What is amazing is that none of them could resist taking the courses of action that would grant them their place in history. It is their chronicler, young Eric Marcus, who was hesitant about his undertaking.

It certainly wasn't laziness that gave the 33-year-old Marcus pause. Although Marcus complains that the political activities of his "1950s radicals" parents precluded stability in his youth, he's been indelibly stamped with their ideals. Each of his various careers have called for his political commitment.

He attended Vassar College, followed by the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University, where he wrote primarily on urban planning and architecture, and where his petition to an assistant dean for at least one lecture on gay and lesbian issues was ignored. He was briefly a speech writer for then Queens Borough President Donald Manes.

TV Producer

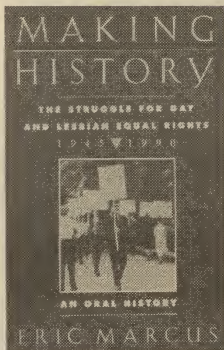
He then made his way to television news, where as an associate producer at ABC's *Good Morning America*, and later as a segment producer at *CBS This Morning*, he worked on many stories concerning gay issues and AIDS.

"As one of the only openly gay people at CBS Morning News," he recalls, "every time a major gay story broke, the producers turned to me."

In 1988 his first book was published. *The Male Couple's Guide*, a practical handbook, was based largely on his own experience — he and his spouse will soon celebrate their 10th anniversary — but was highlighted by some revealing interviews. It was these interviews that brought him to *Making History*.

Our parades exist because of the stirring actions these people relate, and we march to celebrate them.

Flushed with enthusiasm for his book — I caught him in between an on-air radio interview and a meeting with an *SF Chronicle* writer — Marcus chatted with me over the luncheon counter of his Filbert Street aerie, where panoramic views of the bay took second place to his warm charm. The button-down collar of his oxford cloth shirt was freshly



starched, a match to his comfortably forthright personality.

As journalists go, Marcus is boyish Jimmy Olsen grown up. It would be the hard person, indeed, who wouldn't fall into his welcoming green eyes, slightly peppered black hair and blushing complexion.

"The book was my editor's idea," Marcus revealed. "It's not like it was a few years ago, when my editor for *The Male Couple's Guide* was not as comfortable with these issues. Rick Kot, my editor, is gay, he's out, in his mid-30s and this was a book he wanted done. In fact, this was the first book that he had ever commissioned. It was his idea, and I think it was a brilliant one. I just never would have picked me to do it."

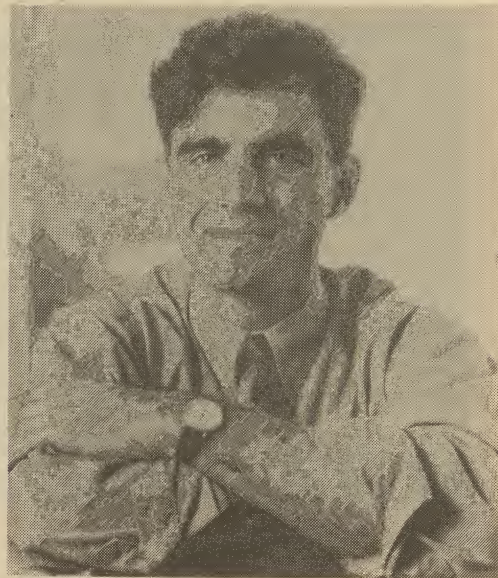
"I just wouldn't have thought to do a book as big as this one. I'm not a Ph.D. historian; I'm a journalist. So I think it was a leap of faith on the part of my editor to choose me."

Editor Kot made his leap based on the interviewing skills Marcus had shown in his first book — skill which Marcus is modest about.

"A lot of it is people just talk to me. I know how to ask questions, to plunge ahead at times when it's not very comfortable, and not to do it in a way that frightens people or makes them feel you're being prurient or invasive. Sometimes it means asking questions that are painful for you to ask, and sometimes listening to responses that are very painful to hear. But a lot of it is a God-given whatever that makes people feel comfortable with me."

Although many of the people who speak in *Making History* have been waiting years to tell their stories, their comfort with Marcus is revealed in their candor and willingness to withhold nothing. This is especially clear with some of the older subjects, whose life experiences have been harsher for preceding the rights they pioneered.

Listen to Nurse Shirley



Author Eric Marcus

Willer, for example, whose dear friend died painfully from lack of treatment because he was gay. Listen, especially, to Paul Phillips, who, as a poor black child in the 1920s, was "diagnosed" with the untreatable malady of homosexuality at the Mayo Clinic. Although he persevered through numerous obstacles, and became a lawyer, he speaks in *Making History* through a pseudonym, and even in his mid-80s, cannot overcome the legacy of his "diagnosis."

"I felt I was just nobody," he says in one of the book's most moving passages. "First because I'm black, and second — and all the other numbers you can think of — because I was homosexual. Because of the opposition against the gay life, I was never proud of what I did as a gay person. Now how do you get around that? I haven't gotten around that yet. I suppose I'll die without getting around it."

The candor Marcus elicited in *Making History* also has its ironically lighthearted side. In the early 1930s, young Jim Kepner found a list of famous people who were homosexual, and says, "It was wonderful, because I thought I was something sick and degrading. And to be in the company of these great people, that's an incredible standard of degradation."

People aren't afraid to dish to Marcus, either. A founder of the Mattachine Society, Chuck Rowland lets loose on Hal Call, who later took control of the group: "This rotten son of a bitch turned our sacred Mattachine into a cock suck-off club. ... It all turned to shit."

Call gets to answer the charges several pages later, with his version of the events. At that point, you begin to see how the stories intertwine, a most compelling, and certainly lively, feature of the book.

"I planned some of it," Marcus revealed, "but a lot of it was serendipitous. It was beginner's luck. In history books, you get one view. It's usually filtered through the

historian, and the historian gives his or her own perspective. But I think we come closer to the historical truth through these personal accounts than we do through the interpretations of the historian."

Marcus loves the way the stories can contradict each other, as if holding conversation about whose memories are more correct. And there's a lot of corrections to be made. One glaring example Marcus told me about concerns *The Mattachine Review*, a magazine many researchers turn to for information about the '50s. Its articles are signed by many different reporters, almost all of whom Marcus found out to be Hal Call.

"When I interviewed Hal," Marcus explained, "he said, 'Well, I couldn't possibly use the same name for every article, so I used different pseudonyms.' So anyone doing historical research is depending on the observations of one man — and I'd say his point of view is a little odd."

The skirmish over the leadership and direction of the Mattachine Society, which we hear about from several perspectives, is among the book's most cinematic passages. The story culminates, several organizations later, with a new set of players, in several tales concerning the 1965 New Year's Day Ball thrown in San Francisco's California Hall by the Council on Religion and the Homosexual.

The ball was raided several times by the police, who made highly publicized arrests when organizers got impatient and told them to lay off. Truly a turning point, it seems as obvious a sensation as an Oliver Stone movie, a civil rights tale of flamboyant justness. Yet it's largely an unknown story, for although it's been told in several history books, they've lacked the immediacy this oral history provides.

The first two sections of Marcus' book, which take us up to Stonewall, are the most

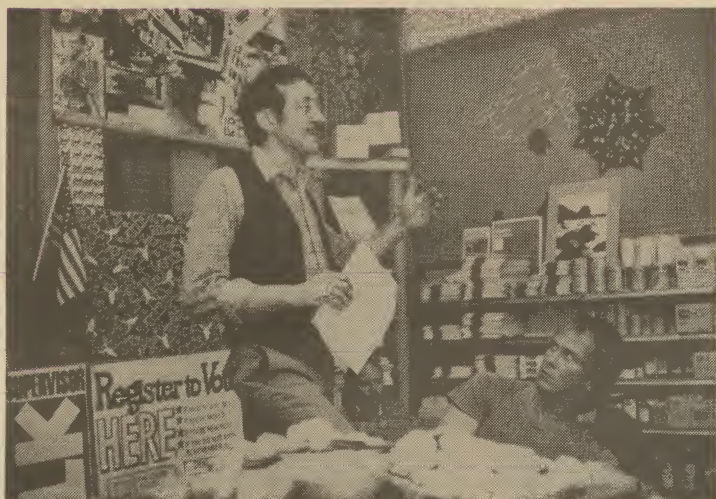
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1930

HARVEY

1978

by Frank M. Robinson



Selling film, selling himself from Castro Camera, 1975.

(Photo: Rink)

Not too long ago, there was a retrospective of photographs in City Hall rotunda of Harvey Milk. Perhaps the most thought-provoking was one of Harvey at the age of five perched on top of a pony. It was the classic kid shot: Harvey in short pants, his jug ears standing out, his eyes very open, very wide, very trusting of the world.

It's difficult to associate that picture with the 48-year-old up-front homosexual who became supervisor of San Francisco's District Five. It throws you off

Editor's note: Harvey Milk's vision propels our community even today. His phrase "a simple matter of justice" is this year's parade slogan; in Milk's honor we are reprinting novelist Frank Robinson's recollections of the slain San Francisco supervisor, which first appeared in the B.A.R. in 1979.

because the photograph is so cliché, so normal. You don't expect it when you see it, probably because you're expecting something else, though you're not quite sure what.

There were other photographic clichés: Harvey as a small baby on a rug, Harvey as a little boy in the standard family portrait, Harvey when he was in the Navy.... He was, incidentally, a very muscular Harvey then, with a rugged face in which the personality was already deeply etched on the flesh beneath. His expression is a strange mixture of laugh lines (his early Navy photos show him clowning with fellow recruits) and the serious lines that were to predominate later.

There wasn't much in the early photographs to indicate what might be called greatness.

★ ★ ★



Harvey hits the campaign trail in the 1974 Gay Parade. (Photo: Rink)

I first met Harvey when he and Scott Smith were running their Castro Street camera store — an informal establishment equipped with a barber chair and a collapsing red velvet couch — as a front for registering voters. Harvey was a very tall, slender, somewhat craggy-faced New Yorker totally unself-conscious about his improbable name. He had an infectious sense of humor, laughed easily and talked a lot.

He had a dog named Kid, and I'd stop by every morning on the way to breakfast, scotch Kid behind the ears and bull-shit with Harvey before he opened up the shop. He'd sort out the packs of film, shoo away customers who'd shown up too early, then finish brewing his morning coffee from beans he'd ground himself. Fresh-ground coffee was one of his few luxuries. So was the fancy French olive oil he used for cooking. So were the opera and the San Francisco and Pacific Ballets, though he seldom had time to attend any of them.

He told me he was into politics and had once run for supervisor, racking up 15,000 votes. He was going to run again — it'd stir a little shit, it'd be a hoot. I got the impression that he was easily bored, and for him, politics was an instant cure. It was a hopeless cause but I volunteered to help.

Harvey didn't think it was a hopeless cause. He thought he could win.

He frankly loved running for office better than he liked being in office, and as the saying goes, he ran early and often. He liked being liked, he liked converting people to like him as an unashamed gay. He loved talking to audiences; he loved talking, period (he was much better at it than he was at writing). And years of working with Broadway director Tom O'Horgan had given him a stage presence few other candidates could match.

Perhaps most important of all, Harvey had humor and courage. He gave talks before hostile high school classes about what it was like to be gay, he practiced the politics of confrontation when he detected homophobia in fellow



An informal, younger Harvey Milk with his partner and then lover Scott Smith in their store, Castro Camera, in the early '70s.

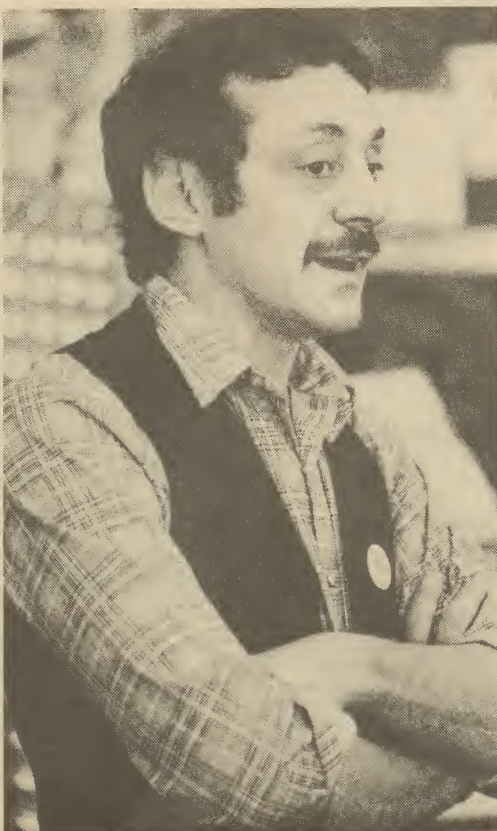
(Photo: Rink)

politicians, he campaigned in enemy territory against Proposition 6 when he was half-convinced that some nut in the audience would blow his brains out. When the gay community came close to erupting after the Anita Bryant victories in Florida, Harvey led the protest marchers for blocks until their anger had turned to ex-

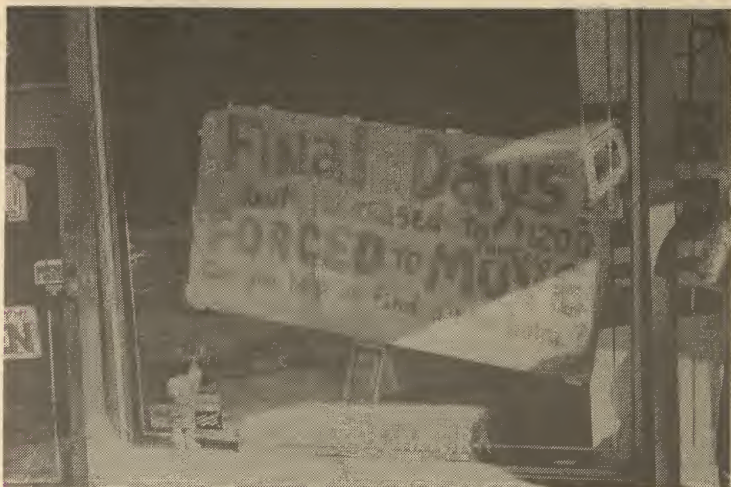
haustion.

(Snapshot: Harvey in the early hours of the evening walking up to a prowler at Walter Kaplan's building just off Market Street demanding to know what he was doing there. The rest of us tagged safely behind. A leader, I reflected later, is a man who

(Continued on next page)



Harvey holding a political meeting at Castro Camera in 1975. The mustache was soon to follow the long hair. (Photo: Rink)



Harvey and gays bring prosperity to Castro Street. Higher rents force Harvey to abandon camera store. (Photo: Rink)



Harvey with admirers Steve Badeau and Dick Pabich. (Photo: Rink)



Swearing in on City Hall steps. January 1978. (Photo: Rink)

Harvey

(Continued from previous page)

has the courage to do the things that you would do if you only had the courage ...)

The two campaigns for supervisor and the one for Assembly member together in my mind ... There was the "human billboard" holding up Harvey Milk signs to greet the early morning commuters where the N-Judah hits Market, Harvey handing out fliers at the bus stops in the early morning and evening, the small troupe of volunteers painting the huge "buttons" that were to dot the district, the excitement of the election night when the early returns showed Harvey ahead in his race for the Assembly (he later liked to recall the stricken faces

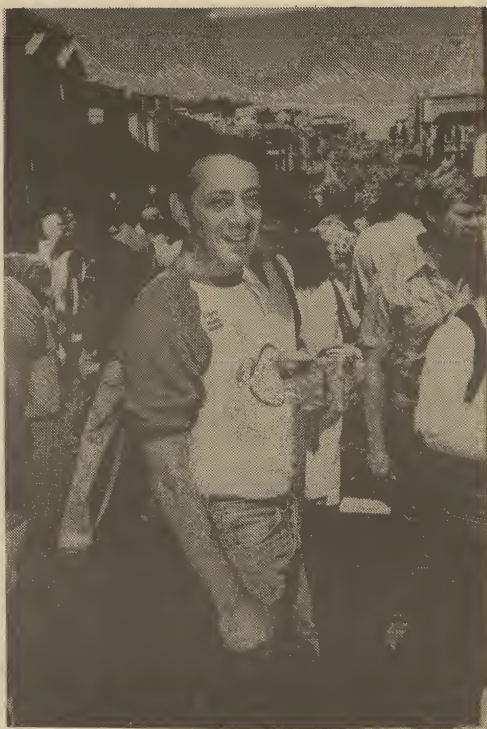
of the Burtons at City Hall as the early figures showed him ahead), Elmer Cooper at a strategy meeting telling Harvey that if he couldn't raise 30 grand he shouldn't bother making the race, Harvey being refused permission by some Castro Street bars to hand out literature on their premises.

When victory finally came, there were few candidates who relished it more. He wore the victor's grin well. You could see it on his face when he marched down Market Street to be sworn in at City Hall, on the day when he sat in the mayor's chair as acting mayor, and when, as supervisor, he played clown for a day with the Ringling Brothers Circus. He had finally become "head queen," the acknowledged leader of the city's gays, the supervisor of District Five —

the most important political office that an up-front gay had ever won in the United States. He had broken down the deepest prejudice in America, but he took his bows on behalf of the entire community.

(Snapshot: After Harvey was sworn in, fellow supervisor Gordon Lau asked him if he would help decorate his office. "Sure," Harvey said, "if you'll do my laundry.")

But winning election to public office was something of an anti-climax. The fun had been in the running — in pressing the flesh at rallies, in shaking hands with Jimmy Carter, in posing with Jane Fonda, in never missing a candidates' night for any group of three or more, in pinning his opponents in debate ...



Harvey's last summer on Castro Street — the 1978 fair. (Photo: Rink)

Was there a personal side to Harvey, aside from politics? He wasn't promiscuous, but he had his lovers. They seldom left him; he left them. They wanted more of him than he could give; he had already given too much of himself to the people on the street, to the people in his audiences, to those who came to him for help, to those who didn't come to him but who still needed help. It eventually led to one of the great tragedies of his life: The suicide of a lover who couldn't understand that Harvey had to be shared, that the best any lover could do was to have Harvey on loan ...

And there was his conviction of his imminent death. He talked about it frequently to those who were close to him. He speculated that he would go like the Kennedys, that he would be assassinated by some kook in a crowd. He certainly

never thought he would be murdered in City Hall. With the police stationed in the building, with the heavy security on the doors, he must have considered City Hall a "safe house."

On the night following Harvey's murder, 40,000 gays (along with many of Harvey's straight supporters) marched silently to City Hall, past buildings spray-painted with graffiti affirming that "Harvey Milk Lives!" And six months later, Harvey's assassin, a man the media had once labeled the "all-American boy," was found guilty of manslaughter and given five years.

Americans had cried in the streets for Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy.

They had rioted for Martin Luther King.

The gay community of San Francisco did both for Harvey Milk — the hippie from New

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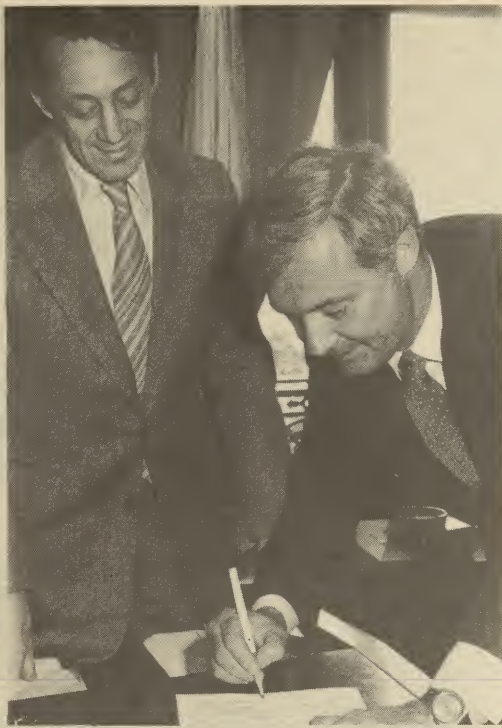


Mayor for a Day. (Photo: Rink)

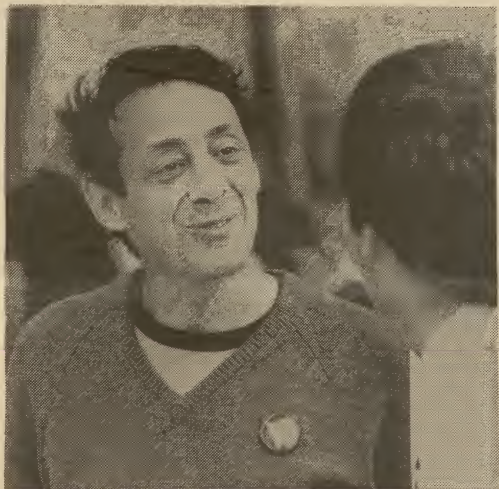


Harvey takes his place on the Board of Supervisors with Carol Ruth Silver.

(Photo: Rink)



Mayor George Moscone signs an expanded gay rights legislation into law. Harvey at his highest point.



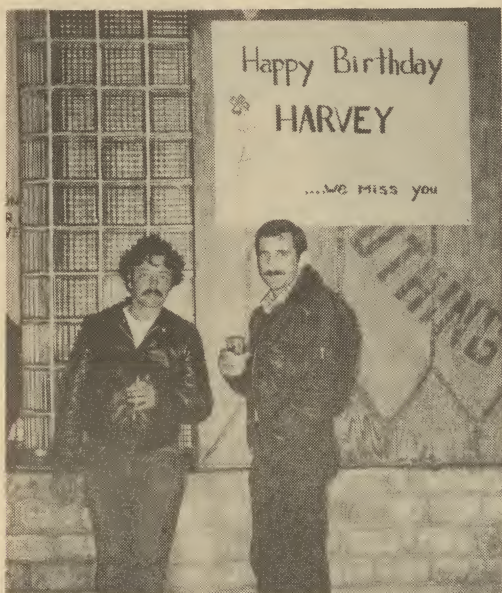
Harvey in his last months ... aged by the grinding political process. The smile remained.

(Photo: Rink)



The start of the "White Night" riots — May 21, 1979.

(Photo: Rink)



Harvey

(Continued from previous page)

York, the "long-haired freak with the funny name" who had lived his life unashamed and unafraid, with malice toward none and with much more

than mere charity for all.

The boy on the pony is dead now, the young sailor is part of history. But as I leaf through the yellowing clippings and the creased photographs, I still ponder the nature of the man who loved to laugh, to whom

courage was second nature, who gave of himself until there was, literally, nothing more to give.

The last letter he ever wrote was about what a great time he'd had the night before at the opera. The last line of that letter was: "My God, it's great to be alive!" He had an infinite lust for life, an infinite compassion for those unable to live it as fully as he.

The papers were all wrong when they summed up the supervisor who had been

murdered and the ex-supervisor who had murdered him.

It was Harvey Bernard Milk who, as a boy, had faithfully eaten his Wheaties every morning. It was Harvey Milk, the self-proclaimed homosexual, who had had the gift of laughter, who had had the courage to be himself, who had earned his political wings by fighting for the poor and the frightened and the lost.

It was Harvey Milk who had been the real "all-American boy."

And for a country as hung up

on image as this one, a country that cannot distinguish between the life an actor has led and the roles he's played, that's been a bitter pill to swallow. ▼



The memorial march — a year later.

(Photo: Rink)



Photo by Lori Eanes

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until the
third drink.”**

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Prepared by Public Media Center

Lesbian and Gay PRIDE 1992 The Bay Area Reporter

A Sideline With a View

by Nancy Boutilier

Each year, as Pride Week approaches, I ponder with my wildest imagination which outrageous image mainstream photographers will choose to represent the entire lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual community. Will it be a drag queen, the dykes on bikes, a few men in skimpy leather harnesses? These are all images that certainly have a place in the fabric of our community, but are not necessarily the most representative images of who we are.

I think of the film clips that right-wingers put forward to frighten voters in Concord from granting gay civil rights within city limits, and then I think ... wouldn't it be cool if each time the press needed a clip to illustrate a gay or lesbian story, they'd flash the image of Martina Navratilova blasting a forehand or a shot of Greg Hubbard of Uncle Bert's Bombers unleashing a home run.

I'm not suggesting that the athlete — male or female — be the designated representative of our community, but I do think that images of volleyball, softball, football and tennis are far from the average American mind when the question arises about us: "But what do they do together?"

One of the things that lesbians and gay men have done together that gives me a tremendous sense of pride is build a sporting community that has been able to build bridges within and outside our communities.

San Francisco, birthplace of the Gay Games, has a long-standing tradition as a gay sporting community — beginning with bowling and softball. One of the most exciting developments within that tradition has been a teamwork — on the field and off — that has

brought lesbians and gay men together.

From the 1300 athletes who marched into Kezar Stadium in 1982 to compete in the first Gay Games, Gay Games III in Vancouver in 1990 brought together 7000 lesbian and gay athletes from 27 countries — 750 from the Bay Area. Organizers of Gay Games IV, scheduled for New York in 1994, estimate participation by more than 10,000 athletes and 5000 cultural participants.

Sterling Example

Team San Francisco is the umbrella organization which grew out of the unity of the Gay Games. TSF encourages and supports lesbian and gay individuals, teams and clubs to participate in sports and

er. A look at the listings show men and women at every level of the organizations. Not all have even numbers of men and women, but the trend is toward making room for everyone. In San Francisco, athletic lesbians and gay men are organizing together, usually training together, and often competing with and against one another. Today, of the Gay Softball League's 500 members, about half are men and half are women, and about half of the 30 teams in the league are coed. Women and men share the job of administering the league and the job of representing San Francisco at the Gay World Series.

Another source of pride in the lesbian and gay sporting community has been the ability to emphasize both participation and excellence in athletics. While the Gay Games reward winning athletes with gold, silver and bronze medals, all athletes take an oath pledging themselves to the encouragement of others, regardless of their relative success or failure.

The Gay World Series, a 15-year tradition, brings teams from gay and lesbian softball leagues around the country together for competitive play in four different divisions.

In addition to the most competitive "open" divisions, many local and national competitions allow entrants to participate in categories designed to encourage relatively even fields. Some sports have appropriate age divisions, and most provide for women and men to compete separately. Physique competitions often make categories for newcomers, and the U.S. Gay Open International Tennis Championship has a "Novice" category for those unexperienced in tournament play.

You will certainly find people who disagree on how

**Consensus
around what
it means to be
inclusive will
continue to
challenge
lesbians and
gay men to
build bridges.**

serves as a clearinghouse for information. From biking to bodybuilding, badminton to basketball, organizations and teams for lesbian and gay athletes are flourishing in the Bay Area. And the listing continues to grow as new groups like Out to Tri, a gay and lesbian triathlon club, form to meet the needs of athletes.

TSF is committed to gender balance, and the board is a sterling example of lesbians and gay men working together.



Amelia's players congratulate each other after a sharp play during the 1988 season.

(Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

to define balance, but the fact remains that even at the level of national competition, lesbian and gay championships almost always have a variety of divisions which allow people to compete at their own speeds.

Similarly, winners at San Francisco's Annual Apex Awards ceremony illustrate how differently people perceive "excellence" in our sports community. Now in its fifth year, the Apex Awards were designed specifically to honor the Bay Area's lesbian and gay sporting community. All athletes in each of the 20 sports honored vote, and they make their selections "based on excellence on the playing field, good sporting conduct and significant contribution to the sporting community at large." After four years, the nominees and winners still vary considerably in athletic talent because those voting determine the relative value of performance, leadership and sportsmanship.

An indicator of the kind of creating and reshaping of institutions that that goes on in the lesbian and gay sporting community is last year's establishment of an Apex Hall of Honor, recognizing long-time sponsors, organizers and athletes for their contributions to the gay and lesbian sporting community.

Challenges Ahead

The challenges ahead for the gay and lesbian sports movement echo many of the same disagreements that emerge at political organizing meetings, at womyn's music festivals and over brunch at The Patio.

First, organizing on a national level must take into account the act of coming out. I recall my surprise at the Gay World Series logo last year which featured the U.S.S. Constitution and said "Boston '91" — no gay reference, but a bold banner announcing Coors sponsorship (but that's a whole other beer can of political worms).

T-shirts don't tell all, but they certainly reflect some of the spirit of the organizers, I think.

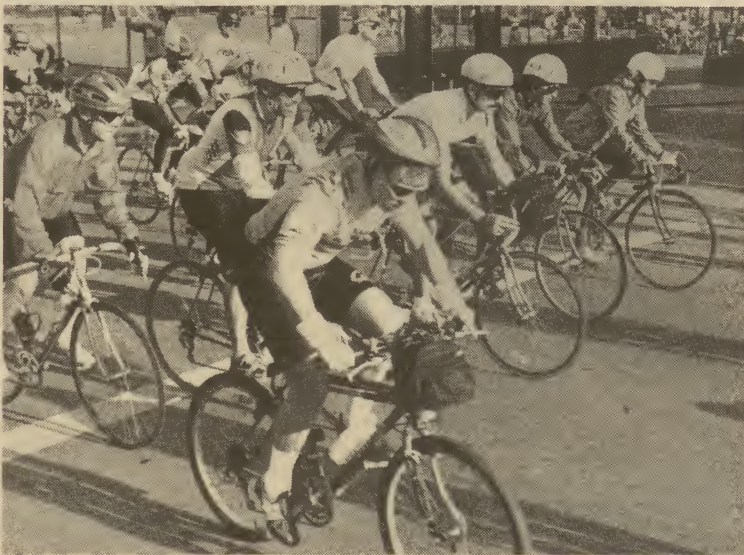
Of the 25 softball leagues that make up the open division of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA), only two are explicitly gay/lesbian identified: San Francisco's Gay Softball League and the Gay and Lesbian Association of Summer Softball of St. Louis. A few, like Seattle's Emerald City Softball League and City of Brotherly Love Softball League of Philadelphia, seem to be gay-signified by name amid a list of names like Beantown, Windy City, Steel City, Big Apple and Heart of America softball leagues.

If the cost of coming out is too high for some to pay, the actual cost of participation is another obstacle. As the Gay Games have grown in popularity, they have continued to attract athletes who can afford to attend. These athletes hardly reflect the diversity of gay and lesbian athletes who fill the fields and rosters from here to Bangkok — or even from here to Bangor, Maine.

Growth also puts at risk the spirit of participation upon which the Games were founded. Each time around, the Games grow — to steal from the Olympic motto, *citius, altius, fortius* — faster, higher, stronger (in the vernacular, "bigger and better"). As production of the Games grows more professional, will decisions be made to allow for athletic achievement at the expense of the original aims? In serving the best athletes better, we may risk the weeding out those huddled masses yearning to be athletes — or at least trying to.

According to *Unity '94*, a Gay Games IV publication, the two world records set by Mike Mealiffe in the 50-54 age group of the 50-meter and 100-meter butterfly at Gay Games III "did plenty for the cause of the Gay Games, granting them an athletic stature unrecognized before."

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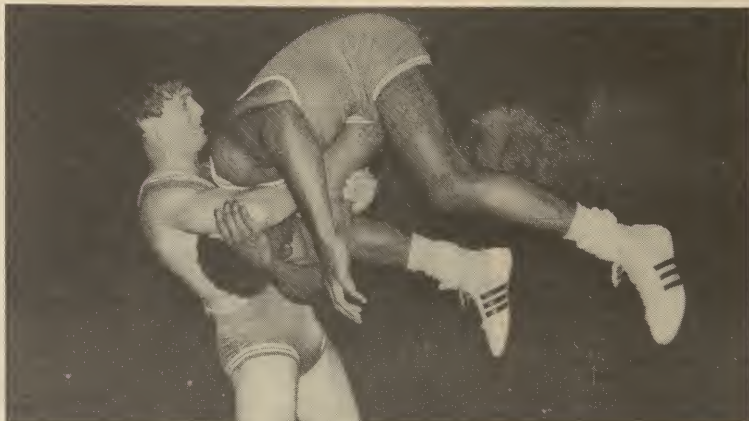
Your typical gays, from our local cycling club.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade



San Francisco has a long-standing tradition as a gay sporting community. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

(Continued from previous page)

No doubt, the celebrity that the Games afford and the shattering of stereotypes are reason for celebration. However, I have watched gay road race organizers get so bogged down in some of the aspects of that event to make smooth sailing for the elite athletes that some sight was lost of the majority of the running field — those who just want to reach the finish line. The balance can be a delicate one, and what will happen if excellence and inclusion clash? If making it possible for a few athletes to have record-breaking conditions will compromise other areas of participation, whose values will prevail?

Lesson for Us All

There might be a lesson for us in the fate of the Wildcats. Not long ago, the coach of the Wildcats basketball team, which is out of a local Recreation Center for the Handicapped, criticized the Special Olympics for watering down their policy of inclusion, saying that "the philosophy now seems to be 'choose the best, forget the rest.'" Newly established Special Olympic rules for participation were beyond the capabilities of many of the Wildcat players.

Like the Special Olympics, the Gay Games and many of the national competitions for gay and lesbian sports have grown more popular and, in a way, more respectable. What will happen to the early emphasis on participation when event organizers find the need to draw lines? Will only the best athletes compete? Only those who can afford to do it? What does it mean to be inclusive?

Currently, the Games have a non-discrimination policy. Certainly straight people have competed with gay and lesbian teammates. Would everyone feel comfortable if all-straight teams entered? Is there a difference between a predominantly lesbian team in Twin Buckets, Idaho, with a left fielder who is straight and an urban volleyball team whose best spiker is straight? Is it the same for team sports as for individual ones? Will attitudes change if straight individuals start winning the medals?

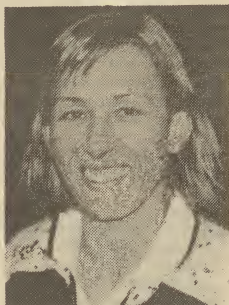
I don't foresee a time when gay and lesbian sports organizations say "choose the best,

forget the rest," but I never expected to hear a gay man tout Pat Buchanan for president nor a lesbian heading up the NEA to veto all genitalia in art. Growth is so rapid in the lesbian and gay sporting world that the more athletes do to prepare now for the questions ahead, the better.

Drawing Lines

The San Francisco GSL was once the Gay Community Softball League. Eventually, the league then closed ranks and identified as gay-only. This year, the GSL voted to allow up to one "straight" player per team, but some have raised questions of how to define and verify such terms, leading, of course, to more questions and no simple answers.

The change in policy came about when a man who had



Although homophobia certainly occurs in the women's sporting community, men's professional sports has no room for a Martina Navratilova. (Photo: Darlene/PhotoGraphics)

been playing all along opted to come out as a straight man and request permission to play. Everyone tried to avoid words like "token" and "quota," but it's impossible not to recognize these as significant issues if they continually surface with such passion and controversy.

At the national level, the Women's Softball Division of NAGAAA also voted this year, with some opposition from certain of the Open Division representatives, to allow up to two straight women to play on each World Series team.

Because the gay sporting arena has been turf shared by lesbians and gay men, when disagreements seem to highlight gender lines, I think it of-

ten tells us more about mainstream sports than we might imagine. Not surprisingly, the men's and women's gay sporting scenes have been shaped by the experiences of gay men and lesbians in the mainstream sports world.

Although life has been no easy coming-out party for Martina Navratilova, she remains a respected and admired public speaker who the press covers even when the companies looking for celebrity endorsers don't. The credibility of Navratilova's point of view was made clear by the kind of access to media coverage she received when she pointed out the double standard by which male athletes, in this case Magic Johnson, and women are measured.

Tennis magazines and even *Sports Illustrated* have published articles that acknowledge without sensationalizing Navratilova's sexual orientation.

Certainly, homophobia is part of the women's sporting community. However, men's professional sports has no room for a Martina. After all, she fulfills a stereotype, while a gay man coming out in the NFL or NBA would throw a monkey wrench into the world of machismo that revolves around sports. Furthermore, the team element of men's professional sports, which is not part of women's pro sports, makes the concept even more threatening to the world. And I would argue that sexism and homophobia have fueled the long-standing discouragement of women's team sports. Heaven forbid, women should find strength in numbers or play without men!

Major Shifts

However, I believe major shifts have taken place in mainstream women's sports — one being the recognition by all women of the way lesbian-baiting by men keeps all women from progressing. More and more often, homophobia is being identified as the problem rather than lesbianism. What has been true for Navratilova has been true for the entire women's sports movement. Bridges are being built between lesbian athletes and their straight peers. Chris Evert has undergone an education toward tolerance because of her friendship and rivalry with Martina, and Evert has spoken up in support of

Navratilova's right to be who she is. In women's sports programs across the country, straight women are speaking out and supporting their lesbian peers.

"New Agenda: A Blueprint for the Future of Women's Sports" conference had a program called "How Can a Female Sports Performer Avoid, Diminish or Disarm Threats to Her Own Sense of Femininity?" back in 1983, and in 1987, I attended a workshop by the same group on fighting homophobia in women's sports. The leaders made clear an understanding of the way lesbian-baiting was being used to keep all women — straight and lesbian — from standing up for equality for women in sports.

A professor of sports administration at the University of Louisville, Brenda Pitts, presented a paper called "Leagues of Their Own: Organized Responses to Sports Homophobia" at the 1989 American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Annual Convention in Boston.

In March of this year, the San Francisco State newspaper reported that the school's women's softball team boasts at least two players who are openly lesbian, Tanya Garig and Edy Coleman, and straight teammates voiced support for Garig and Coleman in the paper as well.

Mariah Burton Nelson's recent book, *Are We Winning Yet? How Women Are Changing Sports and Sports Are Changing Women*, demonstrates that the fight against homophobia in sports is being waged actively — with success and opposition — at a number of levels in women's sports.

"A Silence So Loud It Screams," Nelson's chapter on lesbianism and the LPGA tour, has been reprinted in *Golf Illustrated*. Of course, there was the expected outcry, but there was also plenty of support for the coverage. The fact that the magazine ran the story, allowing such visibility, is a crucial step forward.

Empty Ring

Sadly, in the public realm of men's sports, no one has even stepped into the ring in



For many lesbians, women's sports feel more comfortable than gay sports. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Lesbian and Gay PRIDE 1992

The Bay Area Reporter

To Save Our Children Video Director Recounts the Making of 'Gay Youth'

by Pam Walton

I just finished producing *Gay Youth*, a 40-minute educational video documentary, which will screen June 27 (2 p.m.) at the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. It is the culmination of three years of work; and although I am thrilled that it is reaching gay and lesbian audiences, I want its real work to be done in high school classrooms, where young gay and lesbian teenagers are often struggling to stay alive.

In 1990, I read *The Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide*, which was published in 1989. The statistics were chilling: 30 percent of all youth suicides committed each year in the U.S. are lesbian and gay youth; these young people are three times as likely to abuse drugs and alcohol as heterosexual youth; one-fourth of all homeless youth are gay/lesbian; many gay teens suffer extreme isolation and are continuously vulnerable to verbal and physical violence.

Most chilling and infuriating, however, was the Bush administration's refusal to acknowledge the report. Louis Sullivan, the secretary of Health and Human Services, caved in to the bigoted complaints of Rep. William Dan-nemeyer and other right-wingers who said that gay youth kill themselves not because they are persecuted by society, but because they are seriously troubled people.

Sullivan said, "I neither endorse nor approve the report from the Task Force on Youth Suicide" and the information presented about gay and lesbian youth does "not in any way represent my personal beliefs or the policy of this department."

Subsequently, the Bush administration has refused to publish the report. In my own way, I decided, I would call

attention to that report, and, if nothing else, I hope that that is what *Gay Youth* achieves.

Background Research

All of us who have lived gay and lesbian childhoods have firsthand knowledge of the findings of the report on youth suicide. I like to think that I started the background research for *Gay*

Gina Gutierrez' story was the complete antithesis of Bobby Griffith's: one was about life, the other about death.

Youth when I was a lesbian teenager myself.

I graduated from Los Altos High School in 1962. It was a time of repressive and isolating silence — I thought I was the only girl on the face of the Earth who was attracted to other girls. I never heard the word "lesbian," only "homo" and "queer." Additionally, my father was and is a right-wing Republican and a religious bigot. I dealt with my dawning sexual awareness by pretending I didn't have a sexuality. I studied all the time and didn't talk about my feelings to anyone.

At 21, I furthered my research when I began teaching English at Woodside High School in Woodside, California. During the 19 years that

I was there, a dozen or so kids either came out to me or to other gay teachers at the school who were friends of mine. Most of these young people were fairly together and were getting some support, either at home or at school.

The hundreds of other gay and lesbian students who passed through Woodside while I was there, who were unknown to me, experienced the same repressive atmosphere that I had suffered in high school: there were no obvious role models; there were no references to gay and lesbian authors or historical figures or events. It was, in fact, taboo to utter the word "homosexuality" as part of a lesson plan, but "dyke," "queer" and "fag" were quite acceptable in the hallways.

I never announced to my students that I was gay while I was there. I thought that if I did, I would no longer be able to effectively teach English — I imagined that I would have to spend all of my time dealing with "the issue." Personally, it became an unbearable situation. When I turned 40, I resigned.

Then I came out with a bang. I decided to use all of the energy from those long-repressed feelings to produce videos about what it means to be a gay or lesbian person.

Out in Suburbia, a video that gave a voice to some very closeted women, was my first step. I used to say I made *Gay Youth* for all the gay and lesbian high school students, known and unknown, at Woodside High School; I know now that I made *Gay Youth* for myself. Along with *Out in Suburbia*, it has been my way to finally start expressing the truth about my life.

Miracle of 1990

Every filmmaker has a horror story to tell about funding. And raising the



Gina Gutierrez, right, with Gloria and Brian Leonard

(Photo: Pam Walton)

\$85,000 that we needed to finish *Gay Youth* was not a breeze. It took three years of digging and pleading, mostly with foundations.

But an account of the production of *Gay Youth* would not be complete without the miracle that happened in the summer of 1990. Danny Mangin, who knew I needed funding to start shooting, had graciously written an article for the *B.A.R.* about my pre-production efforts. It appeared in the parade issue two years ago.

Danny told me, "This will get you a lot of money, Pam." I said, "Sure, Danny. Thanks."

About six weeks after the article appeared, I came home late one night to find an envelope addressed to me from someone in New Mexico. I remember clearly holding the envelope under a lamp and reading the handwritten message on the back: "You'd better sit down before you open this. It's guaranteed to make your day."

I have received my share of hate mail, including lists of Bible verses from religious crazies, so I opened the envelope cautiously. I found a letter from Edward Kaufmann, a former San Franciscan who had been passing through the city during the week of the parade and who had seen Danny's article.

He went home and thought about his own suicidal youth and then told his broker that instead of another investment he had been considering, he wanted to invest in the future of young gays and lesbians. Enclosed with the letter was a check for \$10,000. He didn't know me;

he never attached any strings to his money; and it is primarily because of him that we were able to start production in earnest.

Emotional, Real

The original plan was to create a 58-minute educational documentary that told the stories of four or five young people. After all, I reasoned, *Out in Suburbia* had told the stories of eleven lesbians in just 28 minutes; surely I could convincingly tell the stories of four or five people in 58.

And it was very important to me to let these young people speak for themselves. I did not want extensive narration, nor did I want the comments of adult "experts." The real way to effect change is not through intellectualizing. I wanted this piece to be emotional and real.

I already had one story — the previous summer I had read about Bobby Griffith and his mother Mary in the *Examiner's* "Gay in America" series. I approached Mary and she was eager to be a part of what I described as a video that would be distributed to high schools to help break the silence.

Bobby Griffith's is a grizzly account of his mother's religious intolerance and judgmental manipulation that led to his suicide at the age of 20. He not only decided to end his life because he was gay, he chose to end it by jumping off a freeway overpass into the path of an 18-wheel truck — he literally tore himself to pieces. His self-loathing was unmitigated.

Then I met Gina Gutierrez. She was a junior at Los

(Continued on next page)



Gina Gutierrez and I take a break during the taping of *Gay Youth*.

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

Gay Youth

(Continued from previous page)

Gatos High School and had just come out to the entire student body by performing a monologue in the school auditorium about a young lesbian who came out to her Jewish Orthodox parents.

After the monologue, it was generally known at the high school that Gina was a "dyke." Gina's story was the complete antithesis of Bobby's: she had an inner conviction that there was nothing wrong with her; she had come out to her mother and had not been rejected; she was receiving support at her high school from at least one counselor and one teacher, who kept reassuring her that she was OK.

It occurred to me that I had just two stories to tell: hers and Bobby's — one was about life, the other about death. The video, in its entirety, would show what makes the difference.

The only roadblock to Gina's participation in the video was the fact that she had not come out to her stepfather, Brian Leonard. I told Gina that we couldn't proceed without both of her parents' full knowledge of what we were doing and their unqualified support.

Gina spent a restless night, as she says, "sick to my stomach" at the thought of telling Brian. No sleep could have been more needlessly missed — Brian listened carefully to Gina, and within one week, the entire family was attending PFLAG meetings in Palo Alto.

Making Up for a Lost Life

Shortly after that, Brian, Gina's mother Gloria and I met and talked — they gave their unqualified support to Gina's participation in *Gay Youth*. Brian was such a miracle case that one day I questioned him about it, and he told me a story that he did not want to appear in the video — a

few years before, his son had committed suicide, and he felt that supporting Gina and the video now was a way of saving a young life and making up for the one he had lost.

I realized very soon that Bobby's and Gina's stories were not enough. Although they represented two distinct sides of the issue, which was good, they didn't allow for the gray areas, and neither story was about homelessness or drug and alcohol abuse, problems that are rampant among gay and lesbian teens.

So I found six additional young people — Simeon Maraspi, Nicole Meinzer, Alice Sibley, Chris Williams, Toni Long, and Jason Kevelier — who were willing to talk about their lives. In the final editing, I have attempted to use their stories as introductions to Bobby's and Gina's.

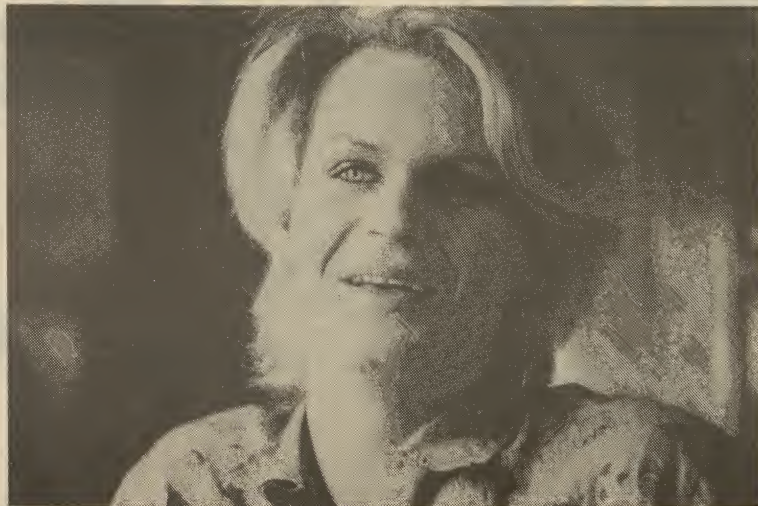
Lows — And Highs

Sometimes we were in the money and shooting, sometimes we were stalled. The lowest moments came when, after spending thousands of dollars and uncounted hours working on Bobby Griffith's story, I thought I was going to have to look for someone else.

I was not the only one attracted to Mary Griffith. She has appeared on the *Sally Jessy Raphael* talk show, on *Joan Rivers*, and on *Today*; then KRON did a one-hour special in 1991, *Growing Up and Coming Out*, which spent fifteen minutes telling Bobby's story the way I was planning to tell it, right down to a young actor reading Bobby's journal.

Of course, I tried to overcome my pettiness — the important thing here was not my video but the fact that the suffering of gay and lesbian youth was getting some attention — but at the very least, I felt, it would look like I "copied" someone else.

After a few depressed days, I realized that KRON had done me a favor: they pushed me to go further and deeper. I



Chris Williams

(Photo: Pam Walton)

made the decision to go to Portland and interview Debbie Brown, Bobby's cousin, the person with whom he had been living when he died, and then we found Bobby's high school friend, Mark Guyer, living in Crockett. Both of these people added important dimensions to Bobby's story.

I must say, though, especially since Mary and Bobby have recently been a part of *20/20*, I worry that the power of his story will be diluted because it may begin to look like his is the only one there is to tell. Of course, we know that there are hundreds of mothers and fathers who have suffered the needless suicide deaths of their gay sons and daughters. It is rare, however, to find someone with Mary Griffith's courage to speak about it.

There have been many high moments. One was at Los Gatos High School in September of 1990. Gina, Brian and I had an appointment with Ted Simonson, the principal, to get his permission to shoot at the high school.

Everyone I had talked to, including a couple of teachers at the school, told me that I would get nowhere with Simonson because of the conservative parents that controlled the school. I had sent my proposal to him a week or so before the appointment, and, to my surprise during the meeting, I discovered that he had not only read it carefully but had shown it to the superintendent of the district.

He closed the door, sat with us on the couch in his office and said, "I think I'm the only Democrat in Los Gatos. And I know I'm gonna take flak for this, but I think it's an important issue and it needs to be addressed. So I'm gonna say yes."

Simonson wanted to be sure that I didn't say or show the name of Los Gatos High School in the video. I knew I could live with that stipulation. He signed the location permit.

Afterward, in the hallway, Gina and Brian and I hugged and jumped up and down and squealed. It was a little victory that made us all feel that we could change the world. Of course, Simonson is the same principal of Los Gatos High

School who made the racist and homophobic joke about "jungland and fairyland" at the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce earlier this year. I haven't decided yet whether that has increased or diminished my sense of victory.

Another high was at the Metropolitan Community Church in San Francisco,

I like to think that I started the background research for *Gay Youth* when I was a lesbian teenager myself.

where I showed my work-in-progress a few months ago. It is rare that I am in a church; my father's hatefulness and total rejection of me have made "religion" a dirty word.

So I took the time while I was standing in the church on Eureka Street to read a short passage that I have had taped to my computer for the last three years. I dedicated the reading of it to Rus Walton, my father: "How good it is to gather, in a rainbow of affections and sexual orientations, in the house of a God who loves each of us as we are created, who loves without limit and forever. How sweet it is to gather, women and men together, in the house of a God who transcends human limits and categories."

Shortly after the Metropolitan Community Church, Mona Klein asked me to bring my work-in-progress to her lifestyles class at Woodside High School. Yes, Woodside High School. We told the class that I had been a teacher there until 1985, and that we wanted

this video to reach kids like them.

They gave me valuable feedback, but the most amazing and healing experience of all was standing in front of a class at Woodside High School and saying, at the top of my voice, "I am a lesbian."

Since then, I have received an invitation to my 30th high school reunion. On the acceptance form in the space where it says "spouse's name" I wrote Ruth Carranza. In July, I will go to the Hyatt in Palo Alto and do something I didn't dare think about in high school — I will dance in front of my high school friends with the woman I love. Wasn't it Peter Adair who said filmmakers make films to work out their own emotional issues? He was right.

Getting the Word Out

Gay Youth was finished on May 29, just two days before I had to submit a festival copy to Frameline. Our job now is to get the tape into every high school district, first in the state, then in the country. This will be a difficult job because homophobic school boards and county film librarians will use any excuse to ignore it.

For this reason, we want to do a non-profit distribution of *Gay Youth*, which will make it available to the high schools at an extremely reasonable rate, comparable to home video prices. We can't do this, however, without raising the money to pay for promotional materials, mailing lists, video transfers, packaging and postage. We estimate that for the first all-out, six-month effort in California, we will need about \$30,000.

You can help. Tax-deductible donations from individuals helped produce *Gay Youth*, and now they can help the tape reach every high school district in California by June of 1993. Make your checks payable to BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators) and mail them to Pam Walton, Box 391025, Mountain View, California 94039. Perhaps this summer we'll have the miracle of 1992. ▼



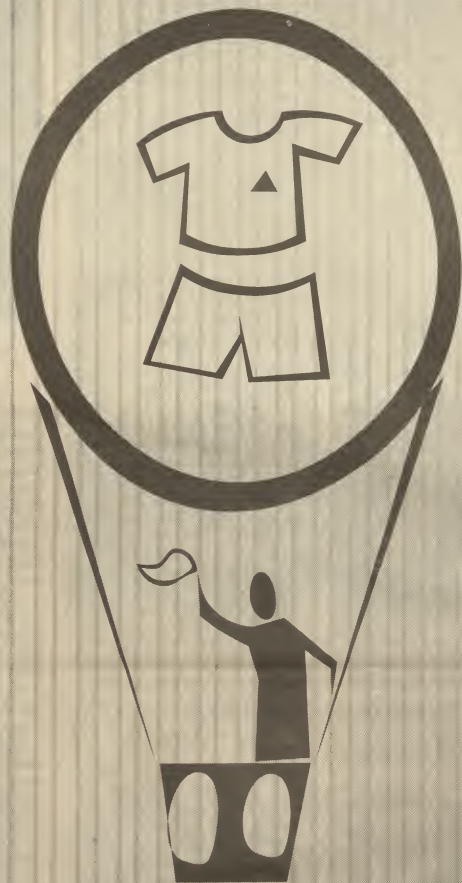
Toni Long

(Photo: Pam Walton)

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Standing by Their Children

"With all that's going on in the world, with AIDS and all the other unrest, it's time we all love each other. When push comes to shove, that's all we've got." — Joanne Goodman, P-FLAG member.

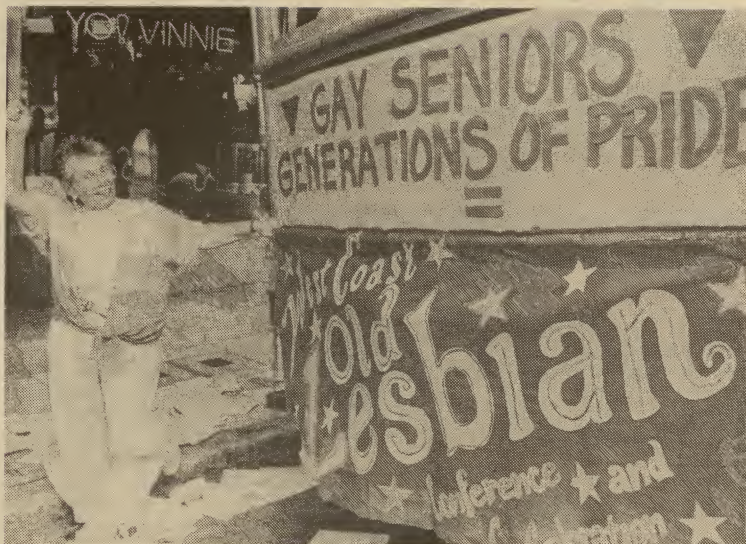
Goodman went to a therapist herself, and was told about P-FLAG.

"I get angry when I hear people talk about family life as if gay and lesbian people don't have families. They do—they have families, loving families that care about them."

"When my son came out to me I kind of went into the closet. Then I learned the feelings of what it is like to have to tell my family, my friends, the people at work. I went through all of the feelings of being scared he'd get beaten up, worried that his life would be lonely and unhappy, and the truth is it's just as full and happy with all of the ups and downs anybody else has," she said.

PFLAG meets on the second Sunday of each month from 2-4 p.m. at St. Francis Lutheran Church. Call 921-8850 for more information. ▼

National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute
1734 14th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20009
202-332-6483 • 202-332-6219 (TTY)



(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Keeping Older Gays, Lesbians Visible

by Rachel Timoner

Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders is in its 10th year of providing services to lesbians and gay men over 60.

In addition to helping older lesbians and gays connect with the services they need, the unique program of Operation Concern coordinates support groups, workshops, reading groups, potlucks, dances, excursions and monthly special events to help create a "family of friends" for seniors.

"In this country after you retire you aren't anybody. Old

lesbians and gays are invisible. Nobody thinks we exist. By being active, we let people know we're alive and well and doing things," Pat Durham, GLOE's women's program coordinator, said.

According to GLOE's staff, lesbian and gay seniors face both insensitivity from "mainstream" senior service providers as well as ageism and a lack of understanding from younger lesbians and gays.

"There's so much ageism in society. 'No good,' 'worthless,' 'worn-out,' those are all things associated with being old. That's not to say that growing old doesn't have its disadvantages, like health and economics, but there are also advantages," Durham said.

In addition to the ageism prevalent among younger lesbians and gays, a generation gap between young and old creates divergent attitudes about many issues, including coming out.

"The generation I'm from led very closeted lives. Younger people don't relate to that. A lot of our members are still closeted, and that's OK. A lot of our members have gotten pretty good at it," George Roosen, the men's coordinator, said.

That's why all of GLOE's mailings go out in plain envelopes.

"If you've been closeted for 60 years, it's a major life change to just come out. We don't pressure anybody to come out," he said.

"Back when we were growing up, for women and men who knew they felt dif-

ferent — knew they were different — their only option was to get married and raise children. That's what you did back then," Durham said.

"The older, the more closeted people tend to be. The sad thing is when people get sick they often have to go back to their families and cut themselves off from us," Roosen said.

Because there exists such a marked generation gap among lesbians and gays, the agency decided several years ago that only people over 60 would be eligible for board and staff positions, a policy that staff members today are very proud of.

"We are probably the only senior program in the city that has an advisory board and staff composed entirely of people over 60. We find that many older lesbians and gays have resentment about younger social workers directing their lives. It's an empowerment thing, really," Roosen explained.

"A lot of women felt really condescended to (by younger staff members). They felt uncomfortable in that relationship. There's just a generation difference," Durham said. "Because we're over 60, we can create atmospheres that are more comfortable for our peers."

GLOE participants will be riding a trolley cable car in the Freedom Day Parade, starting at Operation Concern, at 1853 Market St. at 9:15 a.m., and returning for lunch afterward. Anyone interested can call GLOE at 626-7000. ▼

Soft Touch

Gay Legal Referral Helps Provide Attorneys Sensitive to Community

by David O'Connor

For more than 20 years Gay Legal Referral Services has helped Bay Area residents with a wide range of issues.

"We provide lesbian- and gay-sensitive attorneys without having to go through what we all go through all the time: coming out to perfect strangers," said Sally Elkington, coordinating attorney with Gay Legal Referral Services.

The service started in 1968 under the Pride Foundation. Since the mid-'80s it has been overseen by Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, the lesbian and gay bar association for the Bay Area.

In 1991 Gay Legal Referral Services received some 3,500 phone calls and made about 400 referrals. Oftentimes, Elkington said, callers don't need a lawyer and they are directed to other organizations.

Gay Legal Referral Services has a panel of 60 attorneys specializing in all areas of law, including criminal, business, family, personal injury, real estate, bankruptcy, probate wills and trusts, tax law, civil rights, collection problems, consumer problems, small claims and traffic infractions.

If a caller does need an attorney, cost for a referral is \$25, which goes back to the non-profit Gay Legal Referral Services. An initial half-hour consultation with the lawyer is free.

"The thing that we do for the community is we provide qualified attorneys so people don't have to call around," Elkington said. "But the

biggest thing we do is provide gay-sensitive attorneys to people so that no matter what their problem is, whether it's a gay problem or not, they have someone who understands their problem. Not all attorneys are lesbian or gay but they have been screened for their sensitivity to lesbian and gay issues."

Elkington said that the service receives a number of calls regarding wills, trusts, employment discrimination and workers compensation.

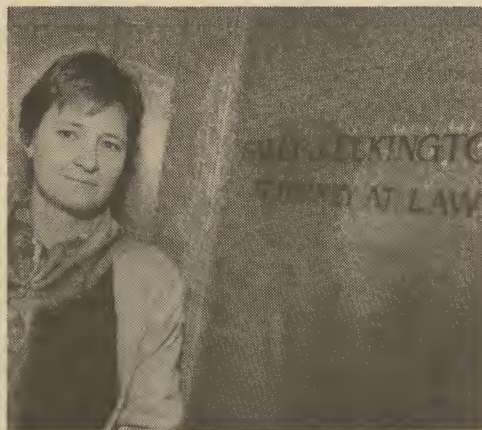
"Family law is an area that we tend to get quite a few calls for, adoptions, modifying their custody situations, filing divorces," Elkington said. "Immigration: lesbian and gay people trying to figure out the immigration laws on how to stay in this country."

Elkington also said that the service was starting to get a lot more calls from people having trouble based on transgender status, and Gay Legal Referral Service is looking for lawyers with experience on that subject.

In fact, the service always is looking for good attorneys interested in getting good referrals and providing a service to the community, Elkington said.

Gay Legal Referral Services' office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 621-3900 for information. Callers can leave a message at any time and someone will call back during the set hours.

Gay Legal Referral Services also offers services at a low fee and no fee for people who qualify based on income. ▼



Sally Elkington of Gay Legal Referral

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

"We are probably the only senior program in the city that has an advisory board and staff composed entirely of people over 60."

—George Roosen

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

Addressing the Needs Of Gay, Lesbian Asian Youth

by Rachel Timoner

Tho Vong, an 18-year-old Vietnamese American, recognized that there was a crucial gap in the youth services provided in San Francisco and decided to do something about it.

With the help of the Lambda Youth and Family Empowerment Program of Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, Vong started the first support group in the nation for Asian/Pacific Islander lesbian, gay and bisexual youth.

"Almost one-half of all students in San Francisco public schools are Asian or Pacific Islanders and 10 percent of those are gay or lesbian, and there are no services for that community," Vong said.

According to LYFE program coordinator Donna Ozawa, Vong was a participant of the Change the World youth leadership program, another LYFE group, when he approached her with his idea. She agreed that it was important to provide a safe environment for Asian/Pacific Is-

lander lesbian, gay and bisexual youth and in March called together a meeting of Asian service providers and youth. Meeting participants left with a commitment to form the group.

"I grew up not having any Asian role models in the gay community. I think there's a lot of fear among many young people, especially among Asian youth, about who they should be. This group is about having a larger presence in the Asian communities as well as in the lesbian and gay communities," Ozawa said.

According to Vong, Asians have the highest suicide rate of any racial group. That fact, coupled with the high suicide rate for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth, means difficulty for a gay, lesbian or bisexual Asian or Pacific Islander youth.

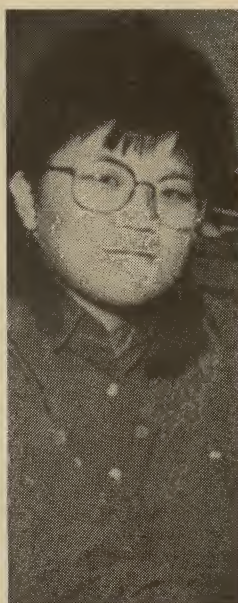
"It's very hard to come out if you're Asian. There's this whole myth that Asians can't be gay, like it's a disease that only affects white people," Vong said.

Vong said he hoped that his new group could both prevent suicide and create safe space for young lesbian, gay and bisexual Asians and Pacific Islanders to come out earlier. His own difficult coming-out experiences were his impetus for starting the group.

"In high school, everyone wants to fit in. If you're different, you could be harassed, beaten up. I couldn't come out. It was survival," Vong said. "My parents would never understand, my parents were still in culture shock. They were refugees from Vietnam after the war. It's a major shock to just pick up and start your life over in a different country."

"I started failing in school. I ran away. I tried killing myself. It was my way of saying, 'I desperately need help.'"

"It was hard for me because I didn't have any role models or support. The groups that exist are mostly for gay white males. They didn't understand the Asian family and they didn't talk



Donna Ozawa, LYFE program coordinator

Despite the obvious need for the group, Ozawa and Vong said that in the first month they've been having trouble drawing people to meetings.

"We've done lots of advertising in Asian papers, but there have been few takers," Ozawa said. "We have to come up with strategies to make people feel comfortable and supported."

"The people I've talked to are too scared to go to a group like this, but I'm trying to provide a safe space of their peers who are going through the same fears," Vong said.

He added that it's especially important that young Asian lesbians can feel safe in the group, "because they have three strikes against them. Asian culture is a very male-dominated culture."

He pointed to the separation in older generations between the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, an organization for men, and Asian Pacific Sisters, an organization for women, and expressed a desire to overcome that barrier within his own generation.

"I'm hoping the younger generation can work together as a community. I need support from my Asian/Pacific lesbian sisters. If we can support each other, we can begin to help others," he said.

The group meets again May 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St. at Valencia, Suite 201. ▼

about my issues," Vong said. "I'm 18 and my parents are in their late 60s and there's a language barrier, a culture barrier and a generation gap. No group had the services that focused on those kinds of issues. It would have been so helpful for me to have a gay Asian friend."

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Left Out of the 'Millennium'

Blind Spot to Gays Mars PBS Series

by Michael Flanagan

Have you ever experienced a sequence of events in your life that seems to have a strange, predetermined order to it? I am not speaking of a phenomenon that would qualify for the Time/Life series on the occult, I am speaking of when you notice that your reading and discussions have similar philosophical content. I recently had this experience surrounding the PBS program *Millennium: Tribal Wisdom and the Modern World*. This series purports to discuss alternative ways of viewing our world:

People everywhere still search for answers to the basic questions of life, love and sex, family and personal identity, money and power, art and spirituality, the future of our planet. Is it time to consider different approaches to life? Are there other ways of living with ourselves and with the earth? ... The *Millennium* series tells the sto-

ries of people in 11 tribal cultures and in our own, working as a kind of conversation between tribal people and ourselves.

I awaited this series with a good deal of anticipation. I had just interviewed Steve Abbott, and to prepare for the

In denying what is "other" in cross-cultural sexuality, *Millennium* has denied our existence.

interview, I read "Tobias Schneebaum: Living With Cannibals" from Abbott's *View Askew* collection.

Schneebaum lived in both New Guinea and Peru and

had experienced cultures where homosexuality was integrated into the fabric of ritual and daily experience. I read passages of this book to Mark Duran (of Queer Planet, the organizing group of Queer Nation), and he was so interested and excited by the indigenous view of non-Western sexuality that he got both of Schneebaum's books.

Certainly *Millennium* would reflect other non-Western sexual experiences showing us traditions which deal with sexuality in a more healthy, spiritually accepting, wholesome way than Western cultures (that make us illegal, lock us in psychiatric hospitals, and tell us we are damned).

Selective Analysis

In the first show, the host, David Maybury-Lewis, returned to the Xavante tribe in Brazil, where he had lived 30 years earlier, and visited his tribal "brother" whom he had left behind. This episode also included an investigation of a tribe in the Peruvian Amazon

who have chosen to remain hidden from the outside world.

This seemed promising, as this was the same area where Schneebaum had lived with a tribe that included homosexual experience in their ritual life. However, either these tribes did not provide the anthropologist with insight into "alternative" sexual practices or Maybury-Lewis chose not to ask, because there was no cross-cultural analysis of sexuality to be found here.

The program "Strange Relations" also seemed promising: love and marriage are discussed through a Nyinba (Nepalese) couple in a polyandrous (one wife, many husbands) marriage and the Wodaabe of Niger, where two types of marriage are allowed (one arranged, one for love). If Maybury-Lewis had only investigated India instead of Nepal, he could have seen the integration of "other" sexuality into a culture by observing the Hijra, the "third sex" of India, the approximately 500,000 eunuchs/shamans of that country.

Instead of investigating the Wodaabe, the series could have looked at the female bonding which takes place among the Venda and Zulu in Lesotho (both the Hijra and the Venda are covered in *The Many Faces of Homosexuality*, edited by Evelyn Blackwood). Alas, this was not to be the case. Here again, we were invisible.

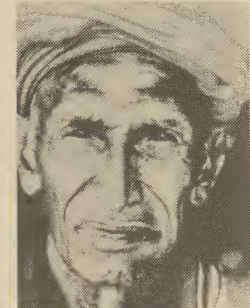
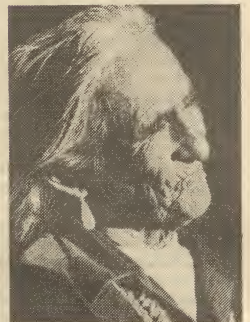
"Touching the Timeless" had Maybury-Lewis investigating the peyote rituals of the Huichol and rituals of a Navajo medicine man. We are probably more aware of the tribal institutionalization of homosexuality in the native North Americans than of any other culture. Will Roscoe's *The Zuni Man-Woman*, Walter L. Williams' *The Spirit and the Flesh*, the works of Paula Gunn Allen (such as *Grandmothers of the Light: A Medicine Woman's Sourcebook* and *The Sacred Hoop: Recovering the Feminine in American Indian Traditions*) and Judy Grahn's *Another Mother Tongue* all talk about this.

The inclusion of other gender styles among the American Indian is so well-known that Arthur Penn included the character of Littlehorse, a winkte or gay shaman in *Little Big Man*. The Navajo refer to this type of shaman as *nadle*. However, here again, *Millennium* did not refer to this type of medicine man. The show did not "see" us in the American Indian cultures and, therefore, did not explore our role in these cultures.

Message: Gay = Death

Incredibly enough, the only reference to homosexuality which occurred in the

(Continued on next page)



Millennium subjects, from top: Jaro of Niger, Africa; Beatrice Yellow of the Navajo of New Mexico; Hurendon Bautista of the Huichol Indians of Mexico; Boru of the Gabra of Kenya; Lendi Mbatu of the Weyewa of Indonesia.

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Harvey Milk

The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

(Continued from previous page)

whole series was a program about a person with HIV in Canada. This program explored how modern and primitive cultures deal with death.

The message here is that gay people are part of the modern Western world — and there is the direct association of death with homosexuality. To be culturally biased as an anthropologist so that you are unable to see (or unable to ask questions about) homosexuality is one thing; to bias a program by only associating homosexuality with death in modern Western culture is quite another.

The premise of this program was that the "primitive" world would be explored to provide answers for the "modern" world. What kind of answer was being provided here?

It is possible that Maybury-Lewis was simply not exposed to the sort of "other" sexual experiences I have described (although this does not give him much credit as an anthropologist). Christian and Islamic clerics have had the effect of making many of these (already ritualized and secretive) practices go even further underground. Witness this passage from the Schneebaum interview in *View Askew*:

By the light of the embers, I could see several men masturbating in pairs. When they saw me, they stopped instantly and covered themselves. They thought that I was a missionary.

The corruption of indigenous sexual practices by Western religion makes thorough research of these practices all the more imperative. If Maybury-Lewis has failed to detail these practices because of the involvement of clerics, he has failed us (and perhaps history), indeed. We can only hope that there is someone more thorough and less biased doing that research.

Whatever the reason for the exclusion of "other" sorts of sexuality, I found some things of interest in the series. "The Tightrope of Power" about the conflict between Quebec and the Mohawks at Oka, has valuable lessons on language, culture and power (which I wish would have been applied to lesbians and gays in the series).

Language here means not only written or spoken language but symbolic language which allows us to conceptualize our lives. Bright Sun says, "My mother told me before she passed on that ... my whole purpose in this life is to pass on language to my people. When I speak Mohawk ... it's my mother's voice that lives within me." I know this feeling — when I live my life in lesbian and gay culture, friends who have died live on through me.

Tewenhni'tatshon (Louis Delisle) says, "People would ask us to speak Mohawk. ... Very few of us could speak Mohawk. ... I'm speaking English, and here I am a Mohawk, and it was very confusing. ... I'd say government in that way did try to assimilate all of the people by destroying their language, telling you ... you'll do better in the English system."

The confusion he describes is similar to the confusion felt in developing a gay identity, and assimilation is similar to staying in the closet ("you'll do better if people don't know you're gay").

Konwatsi'tsaienni (Rita Phillips) says, "A lot of people have assimilated, but their mind-set is still Mohawk-thinking. ... We all have the same desires, but the thing is for us we have no place else to go."

"We have no place else to go" — isn't this the feeling we have when bars (like Febe's, Maud's, Dreamland and Amelia's) change ownership and we aren't welcome any more?

Isn't this how we feel when we are told by Pete Wilson — in a state many of us emigrated to because of its "tolerance" — that we have no right to employment or housing?

It is worth noting when talking about connections between the struggle for Mohawk and lesbian/gay identity that within the same month that the Quebec government clashed with the Mohawks, it also broke up an annual gay house party in Montreal (and sent several people to the hospital in the demonstrations that followed).

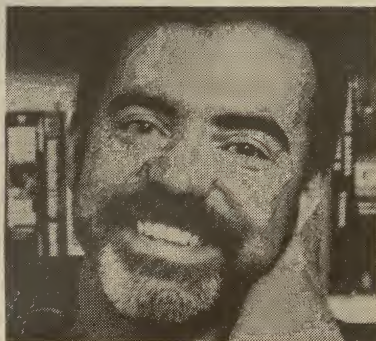
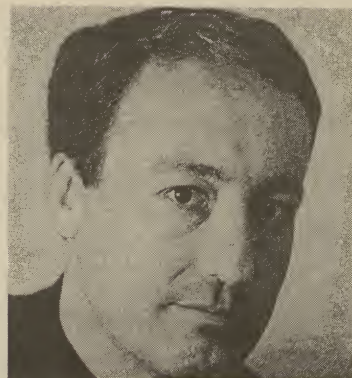
Kahentorehtha (Mary Cross) speaks for us when she says,

I think culture is really in the language. ... I see pictures coming into my head when I describe things in the native language. I can speak fluently in English, but it's not the same pictures I see in my head as when I speak Mohawk. ... I wonder what they (Europeans) expected to find when they got here. ... I think they were trying to change us to be like

The message here is that gay people are part of the modern Western world — and there is the direct association of death with homosexuality.

them. As in the United States, they call it the melting pot, everybody is supposed to be the same, no matter what color you are.

It is incredible to me that Maybury-Lewis didn't realize that his series does not speak for us, that in an ethnographic sense it silences us — allowing



Clockwise from top left, some gay scholars *Millennium's* producers might have consulted for a more balanced presentation: Will Roscoe, Paula Gunn Allen, Allan Berube, Judy Grahn.

some members of our culture to languish in ignorance (we do not "see the pictures in our heads" which allow us to conceptualize what it means to be gay).

Did heterosexual cultural bias prevent him from seeing or seeking alternative sexuality in this series — or did the same sort of censorship that stopped *Tongues Untied* and caused the cuts in *Portrait of a Marriage* have an effect here?

Context for Fitting In

Visual language which "identifies" our culture is made real in magazines and newspapers, books, music, movies and cultural institutions (from the Metropolitan Community Church to Queer Planet). We come into being only when we can define ourselves in the context of other lesbians or gay men and are able to "picture" how we fit in.

If we do not do this, we are in danger of being coerced into silence — the silence of the closet, the silence of depression or the silence of suicide. We gain power in identification with other people in our community.

This is why we can never hope to "assimilate" and yet be healthy and happy. In denying what is "other" in cross-cultural sexuality, *Millennium* has denied our existence. Being ignored by the media is as dangerous as being attacked by it, as we have been so often in films. Besides not allowing those of us who identify ourselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual or queer to see reflections of ourselves in other cultures, *Millennium* has done a disservice to our next generation by failing to show other cultures which provide alternative contexts for sexuality.

Most historians see the starting point of lesbian and gay history in Western societies as the late 19th century. Prior to this time a conceptualization of "sexuality" (and thus "homosexuality" or "heterosexuality") did not exist. Men and women had sex with persons of the same gender, but until the Industrial Revolution brought them to cities (where they met like-minded people), they couldn't form communities or create an identity.

Of course, it has only been in the two decades since Stonewall that we have had an

open, "out," functioning gay community — we are still building a culture. Looking at tribal non-industrialized cultures gives us a mirror of a time when our sexuality was included in the common culture, albeit often in a ritualized way. Examining these types of cultures can give us a window on ways of being in modern culture, and a way of building alternative cultures. Unfortunately, *Millennium's* conscious or unconscious omissions forestalled this opportunity. ▼

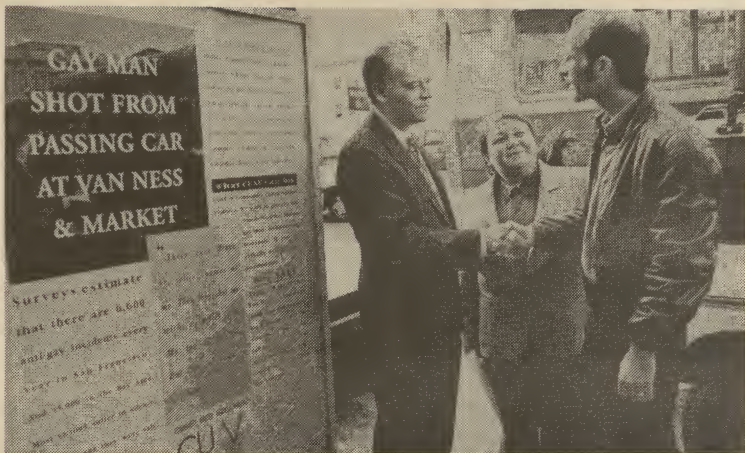
"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

*It's simple:
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Lesbian and Gay
PRIDE 1992
The Bay Area Reporter



Mayor Frank Jordan with CUAV Executive Director Barbara Cameron kick off a CUAV bus shelter info campaign.
(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Community United Against Violence—Still Part of the Community

by Dennis Conkin

Although Community United Against Violence has moved its offices from the Castro to Market between 5th and 6th streets, CUAV Executive Director Barbara Cameron said the group would continue to be a presence in the neighborhood.

"It's important for people who live in the Castro to know that we understand that the highest incident of anti-lesbian and -gay hate violence occurs in the Castro," she said.

"We want people to know that we haven't abandoned them. The Castro was our home for many years and we have key connections. We'll still be working with the Merchants of Upper Market and the Castro Community and Business Alliance — and the Street Patrol," Cameron said.

The agency moved because it couldn't find space to rent in the Castro and the old Castro office was cramped and dilapidated.

CUAV is busy learning the turf in the Tenderloin and South of Market area — and about the reality of life in the downtown melting pot that thousands of lesbians and gays call home.

"It's a new neighborhood with a different kind of gay and lesbian population. We're hoping to be accessible to to many different kinds of needs rather than those just of the Castro community. It's important to remember that many lesbians and gays don't live in the Castro," she said.

The 13-year-old agency is busy getting settled into its new quarters and will shortly be making the rounds of the hundreds of non-profit groups in the area to network, Cameron told the Bay Area Reporter.

"We'll have a better sense of what it's like by September. We've only been here a month," she said.

The agency, which provides counseling and advocacy services to lesbian and gay

victims of hate violence, was founded in 1979 as a volunteer street patrol dubbed the Butterfly Brigade. It began receiving city funds in 1982.

In addition to providing counseling and advocacy services to lesbian and gay victims of hate violence, the group also provides services to gay men who are battered by their partners.

"That starts out usually as an emergency and we assess the situation and work with getting the person out of immediate danger," Cameron said.

After the client is out of danger, the project's coordinator works with the client to handle their other needs.

"Perhaps they want a therapist or we can help them with the paperwork to get a temporary restraining order against the battering partner. We'll accompany them to court if they don't feel safe," she said.

Domestic violence among gay males is a serious problem, according to the agency's statistics. The agency serves about 15 clients a month who have been battered, Cameron says.

The seriousness of the problem is underscored by a recent incident when the project's coordinator and a battered gay man were both attacked by the man's former lover during a court appearance.

"We also provide limited short-term counseling and advocate with the client's employer if time off from work is needed," she said.

Similar services, including tracking cases through the criminal justice system, are provided to victims of anti-lesbian and -gay violence.

"We'll work to get the client lost wages because of injuries through the Victim's Compensation program and we work with the San Francisco Police Department's Hate Crimes Unit," Cameron said.

From June 1991 through March 1992, the group received

more than 500 reports of gay bashing ranging from harassment to felony assault. Between 30 and 50 people receive direct client services a month.

"We anticipate by the end of the 12-month period the highest number of hate crimes reported in a long time," Cameron said.

The group also provides training to rookie graduates of the Police Academy about lesbian and gay lifestyles and sends volunteer speakers to high schools to educate students about lesbians and gays.

The Speakers Bureau program is a prevention and education function of the agency, Cameron says.

Since young men are the most common perpetrators of hate violence against lesbians and gays, it's important to reach out to them, she said. But, that takes patience.

"Education takes a long time," Cameron says. "This country has for dozens of years promoted the hatred of lesbian and gay people. You can't turn it around overnight. The more we educate, the more the general public is likely to understand us and less likely to beat us up, but that takes a lot of perseverance."

"It's not just an occasional problem. As lesbians and gay men, we live with the threat everyday. The fear is always with us that no matter where we are we're not safe. It's very pervasive," Cameron said.

CUAV also provides safety monitors for events such as Halloween, the Folsom Street Fair, Up Your Alley and the AIDS Candlelight Vigil.

The group receives an estimated \$300,000 a year in funding from a variety of public and private sources and uses volunteers in the Speaker's Bureau and Street Monitor programs as well as for office staff.

For more information about CUAV or to volunteer, call 777-5500. ▼

Speakers Bureau Building Bridges

by Rachel Timoner

The 10:25 bell rings on the last day of classes at Woodrow Wilson School and a small group of students shuffles out of Room 234. One by one, students in the next Family Life, Health and Education class walk in and look curiously at two unknown visitors sitting on desks at the front of the room. One kid enters, gives a suspicious sideward glance and saunters out again.

The 10:35 bell rings and teacher Hene Kelly pulls in the kid who walked out and addresses her students.

"You lucked out today. You don't have to listen to me. We have guests here from CUAV, Community United Against Violence."

After Kelly explains that CUAV works to stop violence against lesbian and gay people, and that the two speakers are prepared to answer any questions the kids have, she turns it over to Hannah Reineck and Patrick Mulcahey, the two CUAV volunteers.

"The first thing we have to say, though we think it's a little silly, is that we're not here to turn you gay. We don't think that people get turned gay anyway," Mulcahey begins. "We're here to answer any questions you have about gays and lesbians, because even though some of you probably know somebody who's gay, like maybe your neighbor or something, you probably aren't going to feel like you can just walk up to them and ask, 'What was it like coming out?' or 'When did you first realize you were gay?' That's what we're here for, is to answer those kinds of questions."

The kids start shifting in their seats. The kid who walked out covers his face with his hands.

So Mulcahey and Reineck talk about themselves, what they do, give a little bit of background, and Mulcahey adds that he and Reineck do not speak for all lesbian and gay people, just themselves.

After a brief pause, one girl raises her hand.

"Can we ask questions?"

"Yea, go ahead. That's what we want," Mulcahey says.

"What makes you know you're gay?" she asks.

As soon as Mulcahey and Reineck are finished responding, more hands are in the air.

"How'd you feel when you first were attracted to a guy?"

"How did your parents react?"

"Did you have any boyfriends before you were attracted to girls?"

"Do you have a girlfriend?"

"How do you meet people?"

"Do you know any bisexual people?"

"How does it feel to have sex with the opposite sex compared to the same sex?"

do two women have sex?"

Reineck and Mulcahey unabashedly answer question after question, building a rapport with the students. By the end of the hour, the kids are noticeably more comfortable. They clearly are interested.

Just before the 11:25 bell rings, the two CUAV volunteers thank the kids for listening, tell them about CUAV, and ask them to fill out evaluation forms.

"Now I know how they feel, and this is what I have always wanted to know. I've always wanted to know how they feel," one evaluation form reads.

"What I liked about this was that they were being honest," says another.

"I was never really against lesbians or gays. By my being black I understand what it is like to be stereotyped against," reads a third. Several ask, "Can you come again?"

Though the forms are anonymous, none of them are critical.

Mulcahey and Reineck say they enjoyed volunteering on CUAV's Speaker's Bureau.

"I got into it because I feel a great debt to the first self-respecting adult gay man I met," Mulcahey, who's in his eighth year of working with the bureau, says. "I don't want anybody to have to go through what I went through."

Reineck says that she first heard about CUAV when two Speaker's Bureau volunteers visited her classroom last year. She was an out lesbian at the time and Toby Eastman, Speaker's Bureau coordinator, encouraged her to get involved with CUAV.

Eastman says she is making the effort to get more young speakers and speakers of color for the 45-person bureau that visits several schools around the city every week, because she believes that the students will relate better to people like them.

"We're really targeting people of color and youth. It's just so important to have young speakers who can talk about coming out in high school," Eastman said.

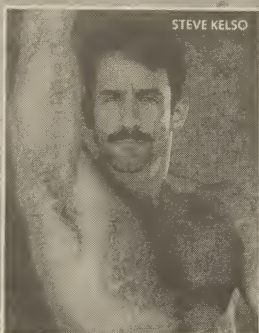
According to Eastman, during the past 14 years that the bureau has been operating, "student attitudes really have changed. There's hardly ever that shock factor, but more of students just trying to get concrete information they need to know."

"I think it's one of the most important education efforts we can do. You see immediate results. It really makes a difference," Eastman concludes.

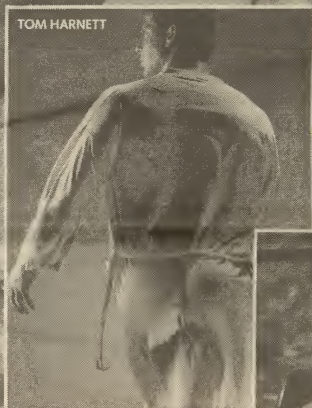
CUAV will be conducting a Speaker's Bureau training this fall. Call 777-5500 for more information. ▼

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Lesbian and Gay
PRIDE 1992
 The Bay Area Reporter



(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

DIGNITY

A Voice for Justice In the Catholic Church

by Dennis Conkin

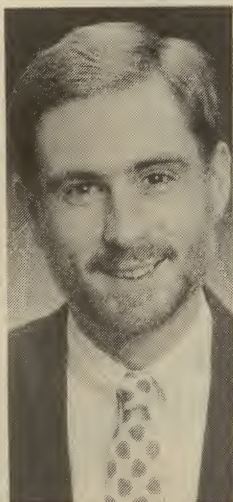
Once a small network of gay and lesbian Roman Catholics worshipping in church parishes around the country, Dignity USA is gaining national prominence as a voice within the Roman Catholic Church.

"Our challenge is not to figure out how to reconcile being gay or lesbian and Catholic, but how to continue celebrating that we are gay and lesbian Catholics. Dignity is here to give new vision to the church and the world and I am proud to be part of that work," said Barry Goodinson, the group's executive director.

Goodinson, former director of development for the AIDS Action Council, said his mandate is to increase the organization's membership of 4,000 in 85 chapters around the country, expand fundraising efforts and spread the word about the gay Catholic movement.

Goodinson said that more than 10,000 people are involved with Dignity, but many who worship with the group are not official members because of "privacy issues" or other reasons.

But, the 23-year-old group, with headquarters in Washington, D.C., continues to have a major impact on the church, in both the hierarchy and the laity.



Dignity President Kevin Calegari

"Dignity is really an important part of the larger church. Sometimes the larger church may not want to acknowledge that," he said. "And some people inside Dignity may not want to view Dignity in terms of the larger church, but it's a voice for justice in the larger society."

Homophobia in the church isn't the only issue that Dignity has to confront, Goodinson

acknowledged.

"We also have a lot of work to do in the gay community," he said. "There's a lot of lip service in the community about celebrating our lives but when it comes to things that are labelled religious, there's a moratorium about celebrating our diversity."

There's also enormous social stereotyping in the gay community as well as larger society that is dehumanizing and dangerous, and the stereotype of the lesbian and gay Catholic as a "self-hating hypocrite" is untrue and unfair, Goodinson said.

"It's kind of hard to stop being Catholic. It's a cultural experience as well as a religious one, and it's unfair of people to expect anyone to deny a facet of who they are. People are Catholic, even if they decide they're not going to be practicing Catholics," he said.

In 1987, when Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the Vatican's Congregation for the Proclamation of Faith, issued his famous Halloween-from-hell letter saying that homosexuals were intrinsically morally disordered and had no claims to civil rights protections for sex acts, Dignity chapters all over the country were booted out of church parishes because the group believes that gay sexual relationships are valid expressions of human love.

The church doesn't and counsels celibacy for lesbian and gay Catholics and anyone else not in a marriage relationship open to the possibility of procreation.

"There's no real movement in terms of what the Vatican would like," said Kevin Calegari, the group's national president.

Calegari, who is a member of San Francisco Dignity, said that "the climate in the church is going to get worse for gay people before it gets better," but said that Dignity is committed to a "longer haul" and is reaching out to other groups of progressive Catholics while building its own faith communities around the country.

"As I've said, our movement's greatest potential for growth is in networking and coalition building with other progressive folks in the church for whom our concern as self-affirming lesbian and gay Catholics are not always foremost," he said in the inaugural spring 1992 issue of *Dignity Journal*.

That's not always an easy prospect, Calegari said. While other progressive Catholic laity groups may be terribly concerned about social justice issues such as homelessness, racism, poverty, the military industrial complex, refugees or the role of women in the church, they're frequently uneducated about lesbians and

gay Catholics and often homophobic.

In March the Leadership Council of Catholic Laity approved Dignity's membership in the group after a four-year wait and three applications.

"It was pretty grueling and exhausting," Calegari said.

Several groups threatened to walk out of the LCCL if Dignity was admitted but two groups threatened to walk out if Dignity wasn't admitted.

Calegari rejected a political compromise of non-voting "associate membership" in the group and membership was finally extended.

"We overcame some homophobia there," Calegari said.

Dignity San Francisco meets for Eucharist celebration services at Dolores Street Baptist Church Sundays at 5:30 p.m. The group is active in working with people with AIDS through Hope House, a residential facility under construction that is associated with the Dolores Street Community Center and other ministries including service to homeless refugees.

For more information about Dignity, located at 208 Dolores St., contact 255-9244.

"A SIMPLE MATTER OF JUSTICE"

Harvey Milk

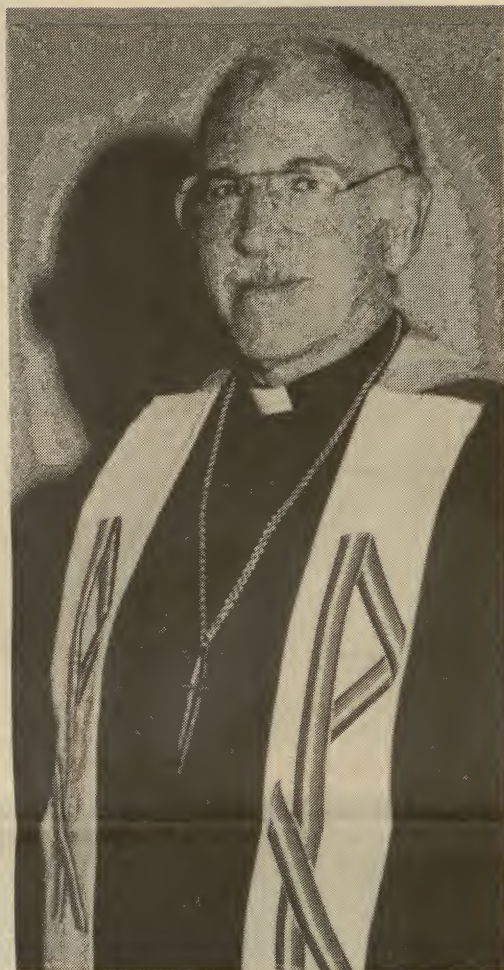
The Bay Area Reporter Salutes the 1992 Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade

Embracing The Divine

Local Congregations Prove There's Room for Gays in Religion



Congregation Sha'ar Zahav celebrated a Passover seder earlier this year at the Officers Club restaurant in Ft. Mason.
(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)



The Rev. Buddy Truluck of MCC/Golden Gate.

by Dennis Conkin

Spirituality is an important part of lesbian and gay life and its expression is as diverse as the lesbian and gay community, according to leaders of local gay churches and synagogues. "People who are marginalized in any way have a pro-

found appreciation for the way things are in society," said the Rev. Jim Mitulski of Metropolitan Community Church/San Francisco.

Embracing the Divine, he said, is empowering and a need among communities that are oppressed.

"It takes many forms. As an MCC minister, I belong to a gay and lesbian church run

by gay and lesbian people for gay and lesbian people. I see us creating our own form of spirituality and defining what's meaningful and boldly rejecting what's not," he said. "If it's not empowering, get rid of it."

Many gay and lesbian people have reconnected with their spirituality through 12-step programs that deal with substance abuse or other problems or because of the impact of the AIDS epidemic in their lives, Mitulski said.

"They're looking for something and aren't so concerned with tradition," he said. "There's a freedom to develop spirituality. The imagery that people use for the Divine expresses what's important to them," he said.

Mitulski said that as an MCC minister he's "not interested in worshipping Jesus but how to make relevant what Jesus was talking about 2,000 years ago."

Spirituality is as basic a human need as food or sex, Rabbi Yoel Kahn of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, a gay and lesbian synagogue, said.

"There is a universal need for the connection and transcendence that people find through religion," Kahn told the Bay Area Reporter. "Many gay people have been written off from the wide community by social oppression, and connecting up with

their religious heritage can be a root and a way for lesbians and gays to link themselves to the wider community and history."

Kahn said that people not understanding the involvement of gay people participating in religious traditions or expressions because of oppression and religious abuse is similar to the confusion people have who wonder how there can be gay Republicans.

"On the other hand, give me a break. How can I sometimes say that I'm a gay Democrat?" Kahn said. "It's not as if there's a brick wall."

Institutions and traditions can be changed from within and co-opted, he said.

Religious scriptures that condemn gay people in the Bible, said the Rev. Buddy Truluck, pastor of MCC/Golden Gate, have been taken out of context and fundamentalist Christians use "translations from hell" to justify their hatred and anti-gay platforms.

"Sexual orientation is never discussed in the Bible. Homosexuality as we know it isn't either," he said. "The Bible has been used as a weapon against gay people and gay people turn away from it. That's destroyed a real source of hope and comfort and ignores the message of hope and life and healing and love and it's a great and tragic loss."

**"The Bible
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—Rev. Buddy
Truluck**



Rabbi Yoel Kahn of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

For information about MCC/San Francisco (150 Eureka St.) call 863-4434; MCC/Golden Gate (1600 Clay) call 567-0980; and Sha'ar Zahav call 861-6932. ▼

Lesbian and Gay PRIDE 1992 The Bay Area Reporter

Working

(Continued from page 50)

adding sexual orientation to companies' anti-discrimination policies and winning health benefits for same-sex domestic partners.

Cynthia Bologna has worked for Levi Strauss for 2-1/2 years. She is a member of Levi's lesbian and gay employee group and will drive Levi's float in the parade.

"This company has a very long history of non-discrimination and was one of the first companies in the South to integrate its plants even before civil rights," Bologna said.

Levi's this year begins offering health benefits to same-sex partners. Earlier this year the firm cut off funding to the Boy Scouts of America because its anti-gay policies are inconsistent with Levi's funding guidelines.

"One of the main reasons we formed was just to help educate people in the workplace about gay and lesbian people and create a safe environment for people to be out and be who we are," Bologna said. "(Dispelling stereotypes is) part of what we try to do and I think it's happened.

"There are so many ways for gays and lesbians to participate in change," Bologna said. "We have our more radical groups like Queer Nation and ACT UP and then there are those of us who are working in corporate America. We all have our place and add value to education and making people aware."

Bill Phelan works at Xerox in Oakland where he said, "It's been great. I'm totally out, it has never been a real issue or problem."

Phelan credited the Xerox gay and lesbian employee group Lambda with getting sexual orientation added to the company's anti-discrimination policy.

He predicted about 300 people from Xerox in Oakland alone will march in the parade.

Xerox has announced a new organization of gay, lesbian and bisexual employees worldwide. Called Galaxe (Gays and Lesbians at Xerox) the organization evolved from a group of employees throughout the company who communicate via internal computer mail.

Galaxe aims to improve awareness, communication and enforcement of Xerox non-discrimination policies as

well as to push for same-sex partner benefits.

Bray said that the goal of all these employee groups, which he calls the lavender briefcase brigade, is to create a better place for gay people to work. And a look at company policies seems to show they are succeeding.

Bray pointed out that more than 100 major corporations in the United States now have formally stated that they don't discriminate based on sexual orientation. These are mostly Fortune 500 companies, Bray said. And the cutting-edge corporations are extending partner benefits to gay and lesbian staffers.

"I think this has the possibility of stunning San Francisco into realizing how pervasive gays and lesbians are in the workplace," Bray said of the parade contingent. "We believe it's the first time in the history of the parade that a coalition of companies have participated."

For more information on the Workplace Initiative, call 863-6943. ▼

Guard

(Continued from page 46)

interested in learning de-escalation and defense techniques for the streets can also attend.

"It's a dehumanizing thing to feel like there's violence on the streets and there's nothing you can do," a patroller says. "The point of the training is to learn that you don't have to be helpless on the streets."

And patrollers say they're trying hard to recruit. The group would like to expand their patrol to include Polk Street and South of Market, but they need a whole lot more than their current core membership of 25 patrollers

in order to safely spread out.

Although Street Patrol focuses on times when shows and bars let out, they say that the vast majority of bashings occur at 18th and Castro when you would not expect them.

"It's not just dark alleys. It's clear bashings can happen anywhere, anytime," Miles says.

And that's why everyone, no matter how safe you might feel, should learn the basics of self-defense and conflict de-escalation, just in case it happens to you.

Anyone interested in training, patrolling or just getting more information can call the Street Patrol hotline at 985-7423. ▼

Native

(Continued from page 51)

stress the self, one person. They don't stress the extended family concept. But Indian people are not based on a 'me' world. We need to act white when we go to treatment facilities. It doesn't work," he said.

Burns also thinks a lot of work needs to be done around the racism in the larger lesbian and gay community. One way he feels that racism is most prevalent is through tokenism.

"I've always seen them appoint token people of color to the board of directors of nonprofits or the Democratic clubs, and what they do is appoint people who do not represent their community, or who are alienated from their own community. That's racism. It continues today, though it is very subtle."

Focusing inward, Burns said that aside from all of its concrete accomplishments, one of the most important facets of Gay American Indians is the group's work to foster brotherhood and sisterhood, to create an extended family of support for one another.

"We work as a collective for a collective goal, not for anyone's individual agenda," he said.

And for some, that includes a focus on Indian spirituality.

"We are returning back to the Indian religion, the circle of our spirituality, which is based on the traditional sacred ceremonies. We are creating our own spiritual space," Burns said.

The Gay American Indians/Two Spirit Community will be marching in the Freedom Day Parade and will be dancing at the grandstand. They also plan to have a teepee booth at the festival. ▼

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1992 MS. GAY UNIVERSE

King

(Continued from page 54)

her essay on the uses of anger, or the fear that they may hear or learn something that will permanently change their perceptions and their lives?

Edmund Burke said that "there is a limit at which forbearance ceases to be a virtue," and though many in the dominant culture do not seem to have noticed, the rest of us have reached the limits of our patience and forbearance. In Henry Rollins' "terrifying land of oppression and opportunity," many of us have grown tired of the oppression and want to see some of that unrealized opportunity.

Sympathetic Rhetoric

Some will complain that they're trying the best they can to improve things, but obviously trying is not enough. During the aftermath of the Rodney King verdict, the thing that got me the most upset was when white people I didn't even know felt compelled to come up to me and offer their condolences. On the surface, such sincerity seems sweet and difficult to criticize, but all I could think was "What the hell are you doing to make sure

things like this don't happen again?" Good will and sincerity are nice, but they aren't going to change the world and make things better for those of us on the wrong end of the short stick.

Colin Wilson said that "the mind has exactly the same power as the hands: not merely to grasp the world but to change it." Unfortunately, too many people seem satisfied with uttering sympathetic rhetoric instead of thinking of what can be done to make things better. I know I personally don't have answers to all the problems of this society or the world, but I do know that lip service is not enough.

Nor can we offer people the possibility of some future revolution, or magical societal transformation, as the solution to the discontent of the present or past, for we only have to look back two months (or 13 years) to see the self-destructive tendencies of revolutionary rhetoric and revolutionary violence. We must find some way to build constantly evolving coalitions of our various communities to work on specific issues of mutual interest and achieve some real progressive change or else we are doomed to relive these apocalyptic nightmares of violence again and again and again. ▼



The Sisters — ambassadors for cultural exchange

100,000 Expected At Europride

by Dennis Conkin

More than 100,000 people are expected at Europride on June 27 at London's Brockwell Park in London, which is expected to be the largest and greatest gay pride event ever held outside the United States and Australia.

Organized primarily by the Lesbian and Gay Pride Organization, the second annual event, which follows London's Gay Pride march, is preceded by a week of activities including sports events, fashion shows, lectures, films and workshops.

As part of the festivities, a contingent of about 100 members of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence from the United States, Europe and Australia will attend the event. Members of the group will put on the Sisters' "Sensational Safe Sex Show" in Paris and London, said Ken Bunch, better known as Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch.

"We're going to do the show in London. We're taking AIDS literature and condoms and basic information about safe sex and will be carrying a 40-foot Rainbow flag in the London and Paris parades. The Rainbow flag is a new concept in Europe," Bunch said.

The multimedia stage show is created for a disco environment with elaborate pro-

duction numbers, films, slides and lighting effects that poke fun at authority figures of all kinds by blending art, dance, drag, politics and performance to celebrate gay pride and educate people about AIDS.

Bunch said that gay culture in California sets the tone for the rest of the world.

When you go to Europe, you realize the engine of international gay culture is in California. They're really interested in and take a lot of our culture and political ideas and reproduce them in Europe, he said.

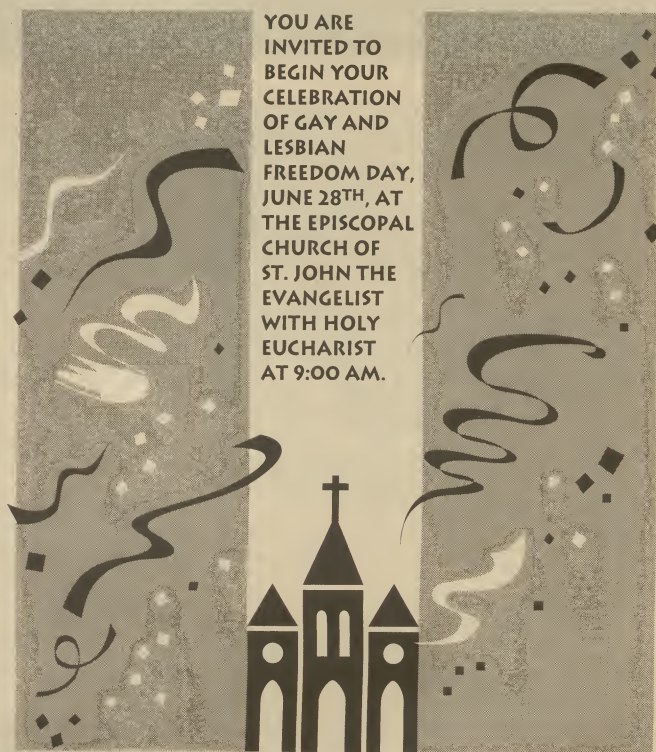
The Sisters, Bunch said, are well-suited to the role of cultural ambassadors and Europride is a perfect opportunity for cultural exchange.

"Europe is united economically and politically and the gay and lesbian community needs to feel united as well," he said.

The Sisters plan to meet and exchange ideas with other gay and AIDS service organizations during their stays in London and Paris.

"It's going to be a lot of fun," Bunch said. "Most of the American lesbian and gay community doesn't even know that Europride exists or that the Sisters are an international order on the cutting edge of communication with international gay groups." ▼

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Lesbian and Gay PRIDE 1992 The Bay Area Reporter

History

(Continued from page 1)

exciting. The fascinating recitations of these little known early years in the fight for gay and lesbian rights reveal a dramatic plot, and we are swept along in the unfolding story. Each speaker adds another element, explains another angle on an event, in a breathless intertwining.

When we enter the 1980s, however, the "plot" seems to dissipate.

"Yes," Marcus said, "because it's a reverse pyramid. We start with this tiny group of people who started these organizations. But when you get to the '80s, we're a national movement, from Juneau, Alaska, to Key West, Florida. You have the broadening of the gay and lesbian struggle, the AIDS crisis, all aspects of life. And with the earlier material, I have the advantage of hindsight, perspective. The best thing to do (after 1981) was to give the flavor of the various currents."

Flavor Remains Intense

If not as dramatic, the flavor remains intense and wide reaching. Two areas of particular impact in the latter part of



Barbara Gittings, left, and Kay Lahusen at June 1988 Gay Pride Parade in New York City. (Photo: Kay Tobin Lahusen)

Making History concern the movement's genealogy as it passed from the homophile organizations of the '50s to the new activists of the Stonewall era, and the story of the Stonewall revolution itself, which Marcus tracks from inside and outside of the bar where so many people think gay lib started.

"You know, there are people in Queer Nation who say

they've created something new," Marcus complained. "But they don't have the perspective to know they were following in a grand tradition, a very grand tradition of street activism that dates back to the Gay Liberation Front, which grew out of Stonewall, and which dated back to the homophile movement before that."

"If you look at the genealogy of the struggle for gay and lesbian rights," he said emphatically, "you can trace all of the organizations and movements and currents we have today back to the Mattachine Society and the Daughters of Bilitis."

Would the younger generation be surprised to read that as long ago as 1968, there was a national convention of over 40 gay organizations in Chicago that called for radical, activist-style street action? Both the look and volatile, impatient actions of the anti-war and youth movements which the Stonewall generation adopted had its antecedents in this convention — a year before Stonewall. In *Making History*, the ACT UP generation meets its ancestors, and finds them not very different at all.

This is a crucial notion to Marcus:

"The point I wanted to

make is that things had become militant or more radical already, by 1968. And the groups that grew out of the Stonewall Riot would never have happened, could never have been organized, without all that came before."

Indeed, one of the more amusing episodes of *Making History* depicts the confrontation of '50s activists and Stonewallers, who attempt to discredit their elders at a meeting of the Gay Liberation Front. What *Making History* makes clear is not only the abundant gifts of those who have gone before, but the continued currency of their methods.

It Was In the Air

What Marcus also finds fascinating is the synchronicity of events after World War II.

"These are unrelated things that happened," Marcus said of a newsletter, a coffee klatch — efforts of individual people, who, in separate cities, picked up the activities that would converge and swell into a movement. Yet there is little explanation.

"It was in the air," he claimed, simply. "It was in the air, it really was."

Out of the ferment, the social dislocation of World War II, for whatever reasons — and I'm not an expert, I leave it for other historians — it led to this explosion in the gay and lesbian subculture in the major cities, and that subculture gave birth to these ideas and these organizations.

"It was also a time, at the end of the war, when people were very hopeful about changing the world. They'd been fighting for freedom! It was when we saw the birth of the civil rights movement, which gave so much strength to the efforts of gay and lesbian people who later fought for their own rights. Not just inspiration, but also experience. And they set an example that social change was possible, that the world didn't always have to be the same way."

Marcus was raised amid such convictions, and it was his belief in them that made him unable, despite early misgivings, to refuse the project which became *Making History*, despite its daunting size. It took three years to complete the book, with six months of taping interviews and six months of transcribing the tapes.

While writing it, Marcus earned his living as a commercial writer of newsletters and advertorial reviews and features. That has changed with the publication of *Making History*. With contracts for several more books, Marcus can now leave part-time jobs behind.

Making History brought other changes to its author.

"For me, doing this book was a transformational experience. I only became what I considered a political gay person after my first book. ... But this book gave me a sense of pride I never had before. I'd always felt a little uncomfortable with the notion of gay



Former CNN newscaster Tom Cassidy in 1967 as a freshman at the University of Massachusetts.

(Photo: Lorraine Potts)

pride. I'm proud of my accomplishments, not what I am by nature. But these people and what they accomplished made me feel very proud of those

"This is like a family; I'm very proud of my gay family."

who came before me. This is like a family; I'm very proud of my gay family.

"They made me realize I



Judge Herb Donaldson at his Jan. 1, 1983, swearing in. (Photo: Rink Foto from *Making History*)

should be proud of my own accomplishments, whether it's growing up gay and surviving it, or being honest with a cab driver when he asks me if I'm married.

"And it also gave me great strength and courage. My feeling is if these people could do what they did at very difficult times, then it shouldn't be difficult for me to be honest with a cab driver, to speak openly in public about being gay."

"So I've gained strength, I've gained pride. And I actually did it — I finished the book!"

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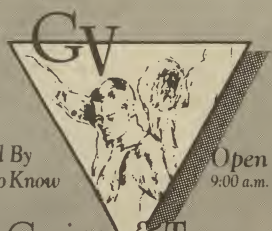


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VOL. XXII NO. 25 JUNE 25, 1992

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Part of the natural order: the dynamic SDiane Bogus, poet and founder and publisher of *Woman in the Moon* Publications, makes a point during a recent talk. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

The Women in the Moon

SDiane Bogus and T. Nelson Gilbert Fight Oppression
With Words of Enlightenment and Hope

by Noreen C. Barnes

Rather than seeing ourselves under the eyes of a man in the moon, we redefine our potential and that image: Woman in the Moon. In our logo she faces south, west, east and north with a view of all things, a part of the natural order.

This is how SDiane Bogus and T. Nelson Gilbert explain, in part, the choice of the feminist and humanist acronym, WIM, for their small press, *Woman in the Moon* Publications, a unique woman-owned, black-owned company which celebrated its 13th anniversary in May. Founded in 1979 by SDiane Bogus, primarily to publish her own poetry, the press has expanded to include specialty works and writings by other authors. In 1989, Bogus was joined by Gilbert, her spouse/partner, in the busi-

ness.

Bogus notes that the primary mission of the company is to publish the poetry of "those who have been the oppressed in this culture — gay people, women, prisoners and African Americans."

It is this dedication to battling oppression with words of enlightenment that has sustained WIM, and word is getting out about the tiny press that still operates out of Bogus and Gilbert's home. In 1990, they had 23 submissions for publication. Last year that number was nearly 100. They have been so overwhelmed that WIM currently has to charge a small reading fee for submitted works, of which it is able to publish only two to four a year.

Proud Publisher

Bogus is proud to be the publisher of — among several other writers — Oregon "prophet-woman" MaryJane Brewster, a poet committed

to social change. Bogus refers to Brewster's poems in *Eye of the Wind* as both conversational and passionate, and to the poet as someone who has anticipated and "consistently documented every major event in this country's recent history. She saw the Gulf War coming. I am amazed at the steadiness of her eye." Bogus refers to this publication and promotion of the work of other poets as an "extension of my own poetics — they speak for me, too."

Central to Bogus' publication of poets is not only furthering the career of established writers but also encouraging new poets. Bogus offers *The Poet's Workbook*, full of advice and exercises — all of which, she emphasizes, are "fun and light," though offered for those who have a serious interest in getting their work out. Poets can send Bogus samples of their work, after doing the book's suggest-

(Continued on page 86)

It's (Mega) Party Time

by David Taylor-Wilson

The homosexual holiday season is upon us again, and it's time to party, party, party. Below is a guide to some of the megaparties happening around town.

Ground Control

Pride festivities begin June 25 at Terricolous, 6th St. and Harrison, \$5. Here, the Mod Squad collides head-on with the Rave Braves for a resultant exhilaration of unified, mutual excitement. Tonight the club is divided into two halves. Up front DJs Jan Cooley, Josh and Dave Rave will unleash a mix of deep house and garage grooves on an all-new sound system. The club sports a whole new look, with a new light show, lasers and 17 video screens.

The rear of the club, which has come to be known as the San Frantasia Lounge, will feature a live techno-house band, California Sunshine and Tahoe Ted, with additional icing on this musical cake by DJ Magic D. You'll also find interactive videos and a Smart Bar.

As if that isn't enough, tonight's outing is an extra special gathering which will be featuring 100 (that's right, 100!) models sporting fashions

that demand you stop and take notice. Fashion designer Mathew Bixler, infamous for his exclusive International Male designs, is one of the hottest designers on the market right now. Perhaps you've seen his work in *GQ*, *Details*, *IM* or *Out* magazines?

As of press time, only 50 models had been signed up. This fashion show-and-tell is open to everyone of all shapes and sizes. If you'd like to participate, show up early (by 9 p.m.) and sign up. Everyone modeling gets a free outfit.

Terricolous titan Jonathan tells us that the evening rolls until 3:30 a.m. and that an after-hours party is inevitable. Consider this your launch pad for the weekend.

Friday Night Forum

It just might happen that the Thursday-night-into-Friday scene at 6th and Harrison will just be winding down by the time Dekadence's June 26 "A Dirty Little Affair for the Bad and Beautiful" party/live erotic performance kicks in to gear. Expect an extra-sexy feel (pun intended) tonight. A "percentage of the proceeds to benefit Project Open Hand," say the organizers. Tickets are \$5 before 11 p.m., \$7 thereafter.

If Dekadence (or decadence) isn't your bag, perhaps

you'll find your niche at Gus Bean's Empire Ballroom at the Warfield Theatre, 982 Market St.

A menage of America's night-life celebrities, DJs and superstars will grace San Francisco's newest Mega-Party. From NYC, the reigning King and Queen of Manhattan, Jo-Jo Field and Lady Bunny, plus Loretta Hogg and Ms. Guy; from the city, our very own gender benders, Pussy Tourette, Richie Rich and Enrique will be on hand. And live onstage, erotic superstars Chuck Hunter and Alec Campbell will — well, you figure it out. Providing the music: Los Angeles DJ Doc Martin, NYC's Larry "T" and our own Pete Avila.

This is more than just an all-night party 'til you drop event, this is a Party With a Purpose. Tickets for the evening are \$15 in advance, with a portion of the proceeds earmarked to benefit the Stop AIDS Project, a San Francisco outreach program for gay and bisexual men.

Colossal Idolatry

Bean's flagship hot spot, Colossus, 1015 Folsom at 6th, turns up the heat with its Pre-Parade Party June 27. The party begins at 9:30 p.m. and runs for 12 hours, so bring an

(Continued on page 112)



Gay Pride Weekend entertainers include (from top) campy '70s parodists Enrique, the gender-bending Pussy Tourette and porn pretty boy Ryan Idol.

Out There

Gay and Funny Tidbits From Around the World

by Daniel Mangin and Kevin Davis

BIG ROW IN THE CASTRO LOBBY between Jack Venza of Great Performances and British director Nigel Finch. Seems Mr. Venza didn't want Finch to talk about the two versions of *Lost Language of Cranes*, one for U.S. and the other for British audiences. Perhaps Venza should spend more time challenging audiences than kowtowing to the right wing and he wouldn't be trying to censor — before or after the fact — his collaborators. Also ludicrous, in view of the modifying of *Cranes*, was Venza's statement from the Castro stage that PBS was commit-

ted to showing more gay films "like the one we just saw." The one we'd just seen was Neil Bartlett's great *Now That It's Morning*, about a 45-year-old man in love with a 15-year-old boy. A PBS natural! For the record, the "safe" version of *Cranes* plays on KQED June 27, 10:50 p.m.

CLENCHED BUT SAGGING: Observes Richard Stengel in "Men as Sex Objects" in the July issue of *M*, "You can't look at a movie, an ad, a sitcom or a TV weatherman nowadays without seeing men as bimbos, love tokens, pinups, video



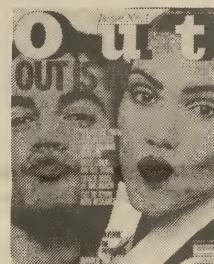
Angus MacFayden (top) and Corey Parker in *The Lost Language of Cranes*.

cate and other gay publications."

'TWIN BRACELETS' IS A HIT: Also in *Variety* June 15, a positive review for Huang Yu-Shan's *The Twin Bracelets*, a hit at the NY and SF gay film festivals. Writes Fred Lombardi, "Chen Te Jung's performance develops fittingly with her character. Liu Hsiao Hui is quietly compelling. Huang Yu-Shan advances her story with delicate and restrained imagery." Huang told **OUT THERE** at the SF fest that she's discussing U.S. distribution with Women Make Movies.

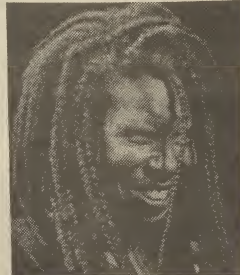
IN OTHER FEST NEWS, *Swoon* producer Christine Vachon had three scripts waiting at her hotel for her even though the festival had kept the location secret.

NOT SO SECRET, at least in New York film circles, is the rumor that rather than swoon, a high muckety-muck at Fine Line Pictures pitched a major fit when he found out his studio had "actually paid money" to acquire Vachon's *Swoon* for distribution. Head(s) may or may not roll on this one.



Out apparently couldn't find a dyke with precisely the right look for its cover.

STRAIGHT 'OUT': A little birdie in NYC whispered into our ears that the gal on the cover of issue No. 1 of *Out* magazine isn't "out" herself. But she's no closet case, she "just happens" to be straight. Seems the *Out* art team couldn't find a dyke model with the "precise look" they were seeking. Scandal!



Whoopi: she loosened those braids and the headaches went away.

ATTENTION MISS KNAPPER: According to the June 23 *Globe*, Whoopi Goldberg's doctor suggested she loosen her braids. She did and hasn't had a headache since, says the tab.

AWARD FOR WHOOP! And speaking of the *Sister Act* star, *Variety* June 8 reported that Goldberg will receive the "service Award of the Human Rights Campaign Fund June 26 in BevHills for AIDS education work and civil rights activism on gender and sexual orientation issues."

'SISTER ACT II?' While we're on the subject of sister acts, William Stevenson of *Variety* had this to say about *La Monja Alfez* (The Lieutenant Nun) by Javier Aguirre, which played at the NY gay film fest: "Catalina de Erauso escapes a convent in 1592 dressed as a man, joins the Spanish Army and fights off the advances of admiring women. Esperanza Roy takes over when she becomes a man and pulls off the difficult task of playing a rather masculine woman without overdoing it. Perhaps it could be sold as a Spanish period version of *Sister Act*."

LOW ROAD TO HIGH PAYOFF: *Variety* June 15 reports that New Line Cinema "is making a full court press to sign Howard Stern to a development deal. Michael Fleming writes, 'This proves audiences will

(Continued on page 97)

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Laying Rubber

by Elliott Linwood

Rubber has a lot to give. It's resiliently flexible yet constricting. The perfect industrial product, it makes for a fetish with a bounce. David Liebondorfer stretches, carves and inflates this material with edgy and titillating "mastery" in his body-scaled rubber sculptures currently at The Lab.

"Why B'other" is an installation of luxuriously, practically lickable finish and infinite metaphorical possibility. The body's relationship to fantasy rests precisely on the kind of presence and absence this artist conjures as an imagined tactile rush. For everything visible in Liebondorfer's sculptures, there is the blatantly seductive lack. This ambiguously yearning, emptied center is the space of the pornographic "other" within. Like sculpted wraparound corset shapes (into which it's hard to resist projecting your own imagined



Love, Teddy: a "goosey" teddy bear inhabits a David Liebondorfer shadow box (Honey Bunch) in the artist's current exhibition.

For everything visible in Liebondorfer's sculptures, there is the blatantly seductive lack. This ambiguously yearning, emptied center is the space for the pornographic "other" within.

body) or Japanese-style graphic designs that highlight negative space (springing out from carving into the wall), these highly subjective yet distancing pieces bristle and ooze throughout the whole room.

This thick-cut rubber is expensive costume jewelry for the mind. *Between Rock and a Hard Place* looks like an inverted valentine or vampire-orchid/fleur-de-lis impossible performance-ware garment tightly clinched with the knobs of a telephone receiver and suggestively dangling cords in front. *Four Men Playing*

Together at first appears a sumptuous chunk of club-shaped card-game outlines constellated around an orange traffic safety cone protruding through the center of the piece out from the wall. Then heart-shaped butts rearing toward the stiff bright center appear. This pointed metaphor, engorged with sex-magic red and black, is mirrored across the room in *Benwah Rosary*, which amplifies the potential players and their prayers.

Open flaps, mostly heart shapes, carve portals into the skin of most of the work. These compartments draw the viewer inside the sculptures while unfurling drooped, sagging, reverse apparitions. Peeled-back flaccid hearts begin to look like tits, asses and testicles. Even happy balloons are eerie. Buoying up pajamas of quilted dream texts written on dental dams, these enormous membranes filled with helium are more weather instruments than party toys. Some of the shadow-box innards contain giant chocolate kisses (*Fruit of My Womb*) or slathered and gooey snuggle bears (*Honey Bunch*). Cloyingly sweet confections are converted into more efficient fuel: dreams are armature for unlocking the depths of sadomasochism built into every surface gaze. ▼

Why B'other?
The Lab Gallery, through July 11
346-4063

'Calypso' at ATA

Comic performance artist Charles Herman-Wurmfeld reinterprets the classic Greek myth of island goddess Calypso in his solo *Calypso: Teletronic Genius* July 2 and 3, 8 p.m., at Artist Television Access, 922 Valencia, and July 10, 11, 17 and 18, 8 p.m., at Life on the Water Theatre, Fort Mason. Utilizing onstage video monitors, Herman-Wurmfeld portrays scenes with multiple

characters — onscreen and off. The performance explores a fascination with sitcoms, video, technology and sexuality, and the progressively closer and more accelerated cultural sphere they revolve in as we approach the 21st century.

For tickets to the A.T.A. performances, phone 824-3890; Life on the Water tickets are available at 885-4749. ▼

Under the Queer Proscenium

Tough Acts to Follow

Edited by Noreen Barnes and Nicholas Deutsch; Alamo Square Press, \$9.95

by Robert Julian

There is a surprising sense of family in *Tough Acts to Follow*, a new anthology of one-act plays about the gay and lesbian experience. A thematic connection should be expected from 12 plays that deal with the same subject, but the compassion these playwrights bring to their work goes deeper than the camp humor often associated with gay plays. These works, newly joined at the hip, point the reader toward a redefined gay sensibility.

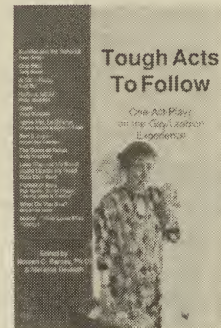
Editors Noreen Barnes and Nicholas Deutsch provide readers and performers alike with material that makes for thought-provoking reading as well as stimulating audition pieces. Two of the strongest plays in the collection are monologues for one actor. Terry Baum's *One Fool* offers an amusing dingbat lesbian diatribe, while Charles Busch and Kenneth Elliott provide a hysterical tour de force for an aging Midwestern drama queen in *Après Moi, Le Déluge*.

In *Show*, Victor Bumbalo recreates the world of an institutionalized priest with AIDS and his hustler orderly. Both heartbreaking and

poignant, Bumbalo's play puts a new spin on an AIDS tragedy complicated by dementia and a harsh double standard on the part of the clergy. But for sheer theatricality, nothing beats Neal Bell's *A Time-Piece*. Themes of incest, co-dependency and alcoholism intertwine as a son explores his relationship with his father with the assistance of a female visitor. Past and present, things forgotten and things remembered, all explode in the looking glass of memory in Bell's skillful theatrical rendering.

Even one of the weaker plays in the anthology, Robyn Barr Gorman's *Bert & Jessie*, provides a tantalizing premise worthy of further exploration. How does a recent male-to-female transsexual lesbian go about meeting and bonding with a female lover? Gorman's play provides only the bare bones of this dilemma in a first-date scenario, but the work hints at a world of unexplored potential still undeveloped by the playwright.

The plays assembled in *Tough Acts to Follow* put sex in its natural place, as a part of the gay/lesbian aesthetic but not its totality. Even the "serious" plays display a sense of humor that is empowered by the authors'



compassion for the human condition. If this is what comes of the gay experience, then this experience deserves to be nurtured and promoted to the greatest possible extent by society at large. But the most consistent theme among these tough acts is that of family — the families gay people are born into and the other ones they choose for themselves as adults. In compiling these plays, the editors have done a careful and thoughtful job of parenting. They have assembled a dozen theatrical orphans of the heterosexual storm and given them, not only a voice, but a permanent home. ▼

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Focus, Please

by Jerry Metzker

Actor Jane Angeles does not get an entrance. When the lights come up, she is sitting at the kitchen table, talking to her mother (played in utter confusion by Patricia Silver). After only a few moments of dialogue, however, Angeles as Samantha Soblonski is a powerful theatre creation, and it is a pity that the Z Collective's current farce, *Soblonski*, does not give her much character or action to sink her teeth into.

The estranged daughter of the recently deceased but still mechanically mobile Gen. Henry Soblonski, Samantha Soblonski figures no more or less prominently in this scattered and unfocused play than any other character, but



Greta (Patricia Silver, right) tries to console her angry gay son Sebastian (Rick Hickman) in playwright Ken Prestininzi's *Soblonski*, the latest offering from the Z Collective.

(Photo: Shane Mackay)

Angeles makes her an intelligent, proud and forceful presence. Whether in the middle of a madcap scene or standing in the background and watching the madness occur, Angeles maintains a composure and a character quite beyond the realm of this play.

Soblonski is Ken Prestininzi's first play with the Z Collective, known for their powerful dramatic evaluations of the current state of various aspects of Americana (Just Say No by Larry Kramer and Sinclair Lewis' *It Can't Happen Here*, for examples), and he sincerely tries to rise to their previous successes.

It is not specifically his screwed-up American family,

his faulty grasp of government corruption or even his story that make this merely an attempt at drama; it is the complete lack of focus.

Prestininzi is like Hansel in the woods, but instead of leaving a trail, he tosses his bread crumbs recklessly into the air. His characters are not real people in extreme situations but fake people in extreme situations.

Most artificial of all is the mother and wife. Greta Soblonski's entire world is in turmoil, so she decides to take a nap; she is thoroughly betrayed in one scene, and only a couple of scenes later, the scum is sitting at her table.

If Prestininzi is Hansel,

then director Andrea Snow easily becomes his Gretel. While he scatters their trail into the wind, she seems content to watch the bread crumbs blow whichever way they may. Her aimless direction only increases the play's sloppiness.

Angeles, Rick Hickman in another strong performance (as Sebastian, the gay son), Joel Mullennix and Molly Goode deserve better. Even Jim Griffiths (as the walking corpse) deserves better. We can only wait for the next play. ▼

Soblonski
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Opera

Avant-Garde Presentations

by Warren Sonbert

Gay artist Bob Wilson is certainly a genius, but sometimes the director's self-imposed restraints on emotion seem inappropriate, especially in such an *echt* Romantic opera like Wagner's *Lohengrin*. His Egyptian frieze, anti-hand jive mannerisms worked well in the Chicago Lyric's 1990 Gluck's *Alceste*, but in Zurich, they falsely rendered all the characters as spiritual kin, while the all-too occasionally floating on and off light-box ripoffs of minimalist sculptor Dan Flavin could hardly hope to match the grandeur and beauty of the music.

That the evening was still a moderate plus was due to Ralf Weikert's conducting and the solid vocalism of veteran Anja Silja as the malevolent Ortrud, Ben Heppner as the boy scout eponymous *Heldentenor* and the luxurious baritone of Alfred Muff as bad-guy Telramund.

The Swiss company fielded another avant-garde presentation with Beethoven's *Fidelio*. Here director Jurgen Flimm eschewed the usual opera buffa laundry display of the opening scene as an 80-year-old, desiccated Franken-



Veteran Anja Silja scored as the evil Ortrud.

stein's Monster of a Jacquin tries to rape Marzelline twice — as they cast bullets a la *Freischuetz*.

Poor put-upon Marzelline goes mad at the climax like a distraught Ophelia when she realizes that her sexy love object Fidelio is actually a 300-pound soprano. These distaff parts were well-taken by Inga Nielsen and Gabriela Benackova, respectively. Spooky settings by Rolf and Marianne Glittenberg and brutal conducting by Nikolaus Harnoncourt whipped up an unusual

brew.

Muff reappeared as a conventionally villainous Don Pizarro while Laszlo Polgar's firm Rocco and Peter Straka's valiant Florestan completed the estimable cast. A month hearing the superb musicians of Covent Garden, the English National Opera, the Scottish National Opera and the Welsh National Opera spoiled one: the pit players in Zurich were no match.

Rare Double Bill

The Milhaud centenary was celebrated in New York at the Alliance Francaise by a rarely presented double bill of the composer's *Le Pauvre Matelot* (with a libretto by Cocteau) and *Esther de Carpentras*. If every bit of Kurt Weill *dreck* can be dredged up for exposure and perusal, then the usually nifty musical shenanigans of this effortlessly prolific (over 400 opuses!) composer deserve an airing every so often as well. The moderately professional forces at the French Institute pooled resources in a convincing draw for jaded cognoscenti. Music director Yves Abel and regisseur Max Charruyer delighted ear and eye in their straightforward collaboration. ▼

Festival Frivolity

by Justin Bond

The first words spoken to me upon entering the opening reception for the SF Les/Gay Film Festival were "DROP DEAD!"

I thought, "Who does this tired queen think she is?" Then I realized it WASN'T a tired queen at all but Tom Di-Maria of Frameline. "Drop dead GORGEOUS! I love your dress!" She has such good taste; my dress really was lovely.

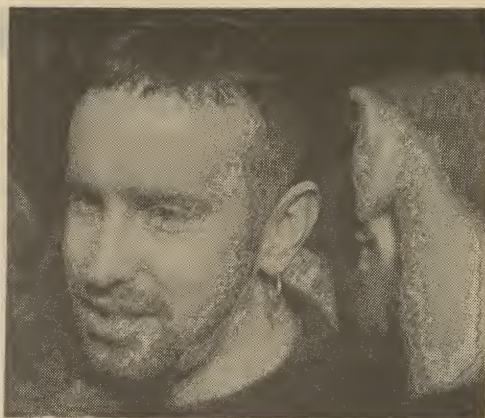
I had so much fun at the opening night gala this year — free FOOD, free MARTINI and what a bunch of glamorous QUEERS! I met writer Warren Sonbert and SF MOMA curator Bob Riley — you know, the one who was responsible for putting that CHICKEN BUTT Jerome into that museum show last fall — two very distinguished and sexy gentlemen. Photographer Jill Posener was there as were Susie Bright and Christine Vachon, the producer of *Poison* and *Swoon*, with whom I had a LOVELY conversation about foundation garments.

Christine told me that Todd Haynes' next film is going to be a movie about environmental illness called *Safe*. Maybe it will be kind of like a queer version of that made-for-TV movie that starred

John Travolta in the '70s. It could be called *The Queen in the Plastic Bubble*; I know I'd be PERFECT for the part. Are you reading this Todd, honey?

Marlon Riggs of *Tongues Untied* fame was also at the party along with Frameline board chairman Karl Knapper, *Fingered* director James Raymond, *Resonance* director Steven Cummins (who, my sources tell me, was later in the clinch, so to speak, with a certain Brit) and sooo many more. It was a GLAM-OROUS schmooze fest — so much better than last year's gala.

My fondest memory from last year's soiree was running into Roberta Achtenberg in the ladies' room. Some WOMEN exude such an aura OF POWER you can't help but feel their presence the moment they enter the john. She kind of reminds me of Helen Reddy — maybe she should change her name to Roberta Reddy. It would be great for campaign purposes: Reddy for a Change. Ooo, I'm SO good! Roberta, honey, give me a call; I'll help you out with your image problems. I was the one who recommended Carole Migden work that Streisand/Woodstock look. Charles Schultz threatened to sue her for trying to look like Snoopy's little



Rumor mill: sources tell us that *Resonance* director Steven Cummins (in center with hoop) was spotted in a squeeze at the film festival gala.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

friend, but I just said to her, "Get Met, it pays." Look where she is NOW.

Finch's Nipples

Someone told me I got into the film festival for free because I'm a HIGH SOCIETY GOSSIP COLUMNIST, but I know it's really because I grabbed that sexy Mark Finch by the nipples at Fusion last Thursday night and told him I wanted me some tickets. When they arrived in the mail a few days later with his card, I was beside myself. I just love cards. But enough of my sexual fantasies ...

One film that isn't in the festival this year is Marc Huestis' *Sex Is ...*. It may not be in the festival, but it sure is on everyone's mind. There was a benefit at Uranus Sunday, and every VIP in town was on hand to

lend support for this beautiful and powerful study of gay sex in the '90s. The most overwhelming sights of the evening were the SHOES on some of these gals. Bambi Lake was wearing a pair of beautiful red platform PUMPS; Jade Novak was in simple black low HEELS; but the shoe fetish award goes to Veronica Klaus for a pair of black-and-red lace-up thigh-high BOOTS that filled me with both rage and jealousy. A few weeks ago at Jonny Kat, Flynn and Deena Davenport's house-warming party, Veronica arrived sporting a pair of cream-colored new buck vintage 1940s PLATFORMS, and I thought I would drool on them. Instead, I saved it up in my mouth and spit on that show-off blonde chanteuse, ruining her carefully applied makeup.

Ha, ha — that's what I say.

Sex Is ... shoes.

Sex Is ... skin.

Not that the boys weren't sexy, too. Bob Smith was running around showing off his velvety smooth skin go-go dancing and looking fine as usual. I pulled down my bustier and rubbed my NIPPLES against his, and it sent chills up and down my spine.

You know who has some of the sweetest NIPPLES in town? Don Baird. Oh, he has the tender little blossoms of a seven-year-old girl, and he's so shy about them. I just want to put him in a pair of cotton floral-print panties, take him up to my treehouse and fiddle with him. Mmm, honey! I'd like to nip him in the bud.

While I'm on the subject of tit play, I think I'll let you in on one of my newfound beauty secrets. For plump, pink NIPPLES massage rosewater oil onto your darling daisies daily.

I have a question. I'm taking a little survey. When it comes to TESTICLES, do you prefer clip-on or pierced? Jerome says she prefers clip-ons because they're easier to get off, but I'm not so sure. I mean, I like a challenge. Now when it comes to nipples, I definitely like them pierced with a gold hoop and a little ball HANGING on them. It's like having a door KNOCKER to your heart.

Knock-knock. Who's there? It's GLAM. Have a wonderful, safe and happy Gay Pride Day! ▼

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Moon

(Continued from page 81)

ed exercises, and she provides a thorough critique (for a small fee).

Critical Document

Another WIM project that has been assembled but is still in need of investors in order to be published is the *Lesbian and Gay Wedding Album*. Bogus cites it as a critical document of visibility of lesbian and gay people and hopes that it will become an important gift book as well as a helpful planner and guide for those wanting to create their own commitment ceremonies.

In addition to the accounts of a variety of lesbian and gay commitment ceremonies, written by their participants, Bogus has researched nearly every aspect of traditional weddings and has taken them out of their heterosexual contexts to make them appropriate for gay people. The album includes a photodocumentary of the mass gay wedding in Washington, D.C., in 1987.

WIM's authors get royalties, while any money Bogus makes from sales of or readings from her own collections (*Dyke-hands*, *Sapphire's Sampler*, *The Chant of the Women of Magdalena*, *I'm Off to See the Goddamn Wizard Alright!*, *Woman in the Moon*, and the latest, *For the Love of Men: Shikata Gai Nai*) is put back into the business.

WIM's uniqueness lies in its offering of consultation, editorial and marketing assistance for new poets. WIM is also beginning a subsidiary, *Uncommon Hands*, which will provide a way for people to get their work published — a kind of self-publishing venture for which Bogus will also serve as a consultant.

Balancing Careers

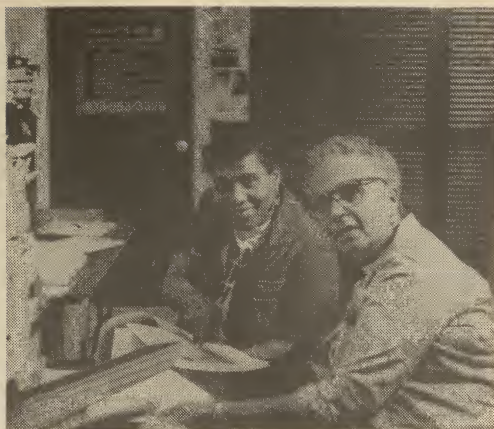
Gilbert, a former investment banker, locksmith and gunsmith, currently balances careers in customer service at Lockheed and as an events coordinator and consultant — all while being Bogus' partner in WIM and in life. Gilbert's skills have been critical to WIM's efficiency, as Bogus has expanded the operation and has had to do her own balancing act — that of being a practicing poet and publisher while maintaining a full-time job as a college professor.

Bogus, who received her Ph.D. from Miami University in Ohio, recently became tenured in the language arts department at De Anza College in Cupertino, where she teaches poetry, literature and composition. She calls the school "a loving and caring environment" that, she adds with a laugh, "tolerates the likes of me."

She stays visible and vocal on campus with her involvement in a range of events, particularly in relation to black and women's history months and studies. At other places Bogus found she was "out of touch with the mainstream," but at De Anza, she finds that she's "not out of place at all."

Bogus and Gilbert's future plans for WIM include moving the business out of their home; expanding the number of poetry events, such as public readings; and increasing the number of publications.

For more information about *Woman in the Moon* Publications,



Loving partners in life and publishing, SDiane Bogus (left) and T. Nelson Gilbert, go over some copy at the office.

tions, write to WIM at 10203 (408) 253-3329. ▼
Parkwood Drive, No. 7, Cupertino, CA 95014-1466, or call

Learning From Each Other

For the Love of Men: Shikata Gai Nai
by SDiane Bogus; Woman in the Moon Publications, \$15

by Noreen C. Barnes

For the Love of Men by SDiane Bogus is a rich, dense book of poetry that encourages both gay men and lesbians to reflect upon their relationships with each other, our love of our own gender and what — through our shared homosexuality — might we give to and learn from each other.

For the author, her purpose, as she states in the preface, is to "reacquaint us with each other, to jog the consciousness of those who would allow me to write these poems and yet would not expect it. For the Love of Men is past due, and given the multiplicity of gay men in my life, it cannot be avoided. This is the meaning of the subtitle, *Shikata Gai Nai*; it is Japanese for it cannot be helped. With this book I intend to acknowledge what is common between those of us who are same-sex lovers, and to validate what I know are mutual loving and sexual experiences. I am also exploring that which I don't understand and am troubled by in male and gay male culture."

Bogus is by turns graphic, spiritual, metaphorical, literal, terse, epic, erotic. She has an uncanny ability to pack as much power into a three-line ode ("Fisting," "Fetish" or "Condom") as she does with her longer narratives of contemporary and mythic homosexuality — she is the mistress of all forms. Her subjects range from men in prison to her father, leather men to drag queens, gay lives lived openly to those which cannot be.

Personal Favorites

Her own favorite poems from the collection include "The Faces of Miss Bobby," about the masks, double lives and closets of many gay men; "Tony Thinks of Al" and its partner piece, "Al Thinks of Tony," about an intense gay relationship infected with guilt; and "The Allegory of the Gatekeeper (In Memory of James Baldwin)," the collec-

tion's longest and most challenging offering. She even muses on the question of "Who is Michael Jackson?" in his namesake poem:

And I thought, Beauty's eldest sister.

And I thought, the crown prince of delicacy.

And I thought, he who keeps counsel with a wild-haired goddess, their secrets supreme: their fraternity spilling over like hot wax, melting the distinction between them, sealing their siam and mysticism.

The Tony and Al pieces, which Bogus notes are really about the secrets we keep from those we love, are particularly striking and applicable to the personal relationships of us all, when seen beyond their specific context of a gay relationship full of intoxicating sex and potential danger. The more I read them, the more they were about my own relationship's difficulties in clear communication:

He gives way, gives it up,
gives himself to me as if I
were his only desire.

How can I say it after
three years?

How can I cloak my size
my length, the fountain now?

What do I do, just put the
damn thing on?

It's probably too late for
both of us...

Bogus wishes to "reconcile the contradictions" between gay men and women. Her work for and about gay men is that in which she is both able to "see and be both" herself and her subject. Bogus calls this work a struggle to make peace with herself, while also being an attempt to "spark a dialogue, to openly discuss" both her attractions to and problems with the gay men in her life.

One critic has observed that Bogus has the ability to "spit and capture your heart" simultaneously. That certainly is the case with *For the Love of Men*, a book for all of us, gay and lesbian, to read and to keep rediscovering parts of ourselves by rereading. ▼

Film Fest



British-based filmmaker Toichi Nakata and his Japanese pal Minoru. (Photo: Satoko Miyagi)

Toichi Nakata's Prying 'Minoru and Me'

Singular Portrait

by Daniel Mangin

Toichi Nakata's *Minoru and Me*, playing curiously, on a bill with Pam Walton's *Gay Youth*, with which it has precious little in common, is an alternately fascinating and exasperating work. Ostensibly the video is a "documentary" about a Japanese man (Minoru) with cerebral palsy who comes to England with "something to tell" the videomaker, a recent acquaintance and film student who also happens to be in need of a subject for a school project.

The work's prying style — Nakata mercilessly, obnoxiously, interminably, keeps his camera rolling long after he's crossed the border into what most viewers might consider Minoru's "private space" — raises a number of questions about the proper role of the documentarian: Just because a subject "agrees" to be recorded and just because the resultant footage is "good video," does the latter end justify any and all means available? If a subject suddenly announces that he's been acting for the camera the whole way through, have we seen the "real" him or her?

Unfortunately, most of these questions re the documentarian's role have already been answered (one thinks immediately of Shirley Clarke's intrusive but compelling *Portrait of Jason* while watching *Minoru*), and in any case most film and video makers know what common decency is, whether or not they care to practice it.

The Real Minoru?

What makes *Minoru and Me* worth a look is that, morality aside (and almost despite himself), Nakata has created an astounding, singular portrait of a gay man with a (setting political correctness aside for a moment) decided handicap. Neither subject nor documentarian shy away from the difficulties having cerebral palsy has created for Minoru, and it is indeed through the taping process that Nakata comes to know the "real" (warts and all, as they say) Minoru as opposed to his initial conception of the man as differently-abled-person valiantly triumphing-over-everything-with-aplomb.

It's a painful discovery, more so for Minoru (video, as he points out, reveals far more than a mirror) and the audience than for Nakata. It is

a flaw of so personal a tape (it is titled *Minoru and Me*, after all) that Nakata hides behind the camera and his voiceover narration a bit too conveniently. The relationship of two people has undergone a grand change, but only one is "under the microscope."

But do we really come to know the "real" Minoru? As did Jason to Shirley Clarke a good way into *Portrait of Jason*, Minoru tells Nakata that he's been "acting" all the way through the tape. And as with the 1967 film, a subject may be acting, but two things tend to upend the subterfuge: over a long period of recording truth tends to will out, and in any case how one "acts" is revelatory.

The tape is structured so that the fact that Minoru is gay — this is what he has come to London to tell the also gay videomaker — is the film's punch line, but one guesses this is the case rather early on, if for no other reason than that this tape would not have been included in a gay fest. This coy ploy actually works against the documentary — it may be hard for Minoru to admit he's gay, but in contrast to his other "problems," psychological, chemical (he drinks quite a bit to ease his pain) and otherwise, this is peanuts.

A Man of Insight

If you don't tune out during some excruciatingly long segments, you'll learn quite a bit from *Minoru and Me*. Minoru is ultimately a man of great insight, though not necessarily for the reasons that originally attracted Nakata to him. He's a fighter, one who's worried about the increasing exclusion of disabled people in Japanese society ("We're not accepted as human beings or individuals") and one who sees clearly the connection between discrimination against gays and discrimination against the disabled.

Elsewhere in this issue, Pam Walton describes the making of *Gay Youth*, her educational video, intended for use in high schools, about the needs/hopes/feelings of younger gays. *Gay Youth* is, in a word, empowering, and will likely be an invaluable consciousness-raising tool in classrooms across the country.

Minoru and Me
Gay Youth
Roxie, June 27, 2 p.m.

(More) Desire

by Noreen C. Barnes

The films in "She Likes (More) Girls" cover a wide range of desire, largely in memory and internal projection — both nightmarish and dreamlike. They include a lesbian's brief heterosexual indiscretion, a straight woman's growing attraction to another woman and increased distance from her boyfriend, and lesbian affairs manifested in both appealing fantasy and disturbing recollection.

Bay Area director Maureen Brownsey offers *True Blue*, a witty piece about the consequences of a lesbian's heterosexual relapse of one night with an ex-lover. It's highlighted by Karen Williams' appearance as a co-worker of the distraught dyke who brings a home pregnancy test to the office.

A Certain Grace by Sandra Nettlebeck (also a local filmmaker) is a moody work about the increasing attraction between photographer and model. Here, the lines blur between subject and object of desire, as lesbianism seems to be the logical outgrowth of the artist's photo essay of "women from a feminist perspective."

The woman grows apart from her musician boyfriend, who is as frustrated with his own work as he is with her



Mutual attraction: a photographer and a model are drawn to each other in Sandra Nettlebeck's *A Certain Grace*.

not being home. By showing his attempts to be an artist as well as his efforts to salvage the relationship, Nettlebeck gives him another dimension instead of opting for the all-too-easy casting of him as straight, asshole guy. The attraction between the two women is inescapable, though, as she tries to tell him, "This is not about you."

Christine Rasmussen's *Doll Shop* is a beautifully filmed fantasy of a woman attracted to a co-worker — the dolls around them come to life and mirror the woman's own desires.

Justine Buchanan's *Glasses Break*, impressions of a bit-

tersweet affair remembered, is both provocative and elusive.

Angie Black's *State of Mind* is the most disturbing work. It's a nightmare vision: pain, blades and blood; straight fucking; lesbian lovers as enemies (and the scars they leave behind); a sword duel coinciding with orgasm; a sort of amazon road warrior; cemeteries and pool halls; the ritualization of desire. The images are very powerful, with that bad-dream kind of feel. ▼

She Likes (More) Girls
Castro, June 27, 2:15 p.m.

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Schlock 'Rock'

by Warren Sonbert

A work-in-progress preview tape of Mark Rappaport's *Rock Hudson's Home Movies* made one ask oneself, "When it's finally complete, will it be completely awful?" The video is a shambles, and no amount of last-minute tweaking will overcome its loathsome premise or smarmy attitude.

Rappaport takes extracts from Hudson's film career and attaches snide comments to them. He thinks he's finding the gay subtexts in Rock's closeted life in his movie roles and lines, adding an overlay of bitchy bon mots. Unfortunately, they're not half as amusing as those impromptu jibes that that drag queen behind you at the Castro (whom you'd like to strangle) pours out during standards like *The Women* or *Now, Voyager*.

Of course, anyone's free to piss over George Stevens' *Giant*, Douglas Sirk's *Written on the Wind* or Howard Hawks' *Man's Favorite Sport?* — to name just three of the masterpieces of Rock's output that are, in this democratic olio, lumped together with lesser items like *The Twilight of the Gods*, *Something of Value* and even, by golly, *Back to God's Country*.

To Rappaport they all have the same worth and substance. It's the typical, lazy dismissal of the '50s as a sterile, repressed, uncreative age.

First Reactions?

Richard Dyer in London's recent gay and lesbian film festival gave a much more reasoned and appreciative lecture on this Rock theme. Rappaport's interjections, on the other hand, seem almost like the first reaction popping into his mind: A scene between Rock and actor Vittorio de Sica from Charles Vidor's 1957 *A Farewell to Arms* is punctured by Rappaport's questioning "Will de Sica put me in one of his films?"

Rappaport is even wide of the mark in discussing Hudson's nine-film relationship with Douglas Sirk. Even here, Sirk's special brand of mise-en-scene and filmic energies count for naught. Can Rappaport really be so blind that the potent image (from *Written on the Wind*) of Dorothy Malone drenched in floozie red in a scarlet convertible sports car with a field of pumping oil derricks behind her doesn't register for him as a creative statement of unmistakable force and majesty?

Instead of enlightening his audience to the shot's aesthetic strength, Rappaport instead merely uses it as the pretext for another cheap joke. And so it goes.

Misread 'Obsession'

Rappaport rightly intuitively Otto Kruger's character in *Magnificent Obsession* as not only a Sirk stand-in but also as a homosexual. But then he



The old Rock (seen here in all his '50s glory) is intercut with the new (a look-alike) in Mark Rappaport's comedy about Hollywood and homosexuality, *Rock Hudson's Home Movies*.

labels him "a predator," which is a total misreading of the film. Kruger's relationship to Hudson is as guide and mentor, teacher and counselor — a sage who can bring out Hudson's character's best qualities (just as Sirk does with the actor as director). Rappaport also fails to mention that Agnes Moorehead fulfills an identical vocation in relationship to Jane Wyman's blind widow in the same film — and that there are lesbian underpinnings as well.

An emblematic image at the end of *Obsession* has Kruger and Moorehead facing off with each other — full of self-acknowledgment and resignation about their constructive, creative yet now relinquishing roles. It is a thrilling and moving moment in a rich and varied work that never for an instance allows its audience to forget that there are

positive gay and lesbian role models active in this world.

Instead of showing *Magnificent Obsession* as a worthy revival, a masterpiece of world cinema that is applicable to gays and lesbians today, our festival prefers to exhibit this incomplete trashing of it, a feeble, cornball put-down masquerading as personal impression. Go figure.

Hollywood Homophobes

Preceding *Rock Hudson's Home Movies* is *Homophobia in Hollywood*, directed by Clare Beavan and produced by Shauna Brown (their roles are reversed from the more dazzling *The Gay Rock 'n' Roll Years* (screening through June 28 at art of the Eye Gallery).

The video pits gay media critics and activists David Ehrenstein, Jehan Agrama and Michelangelo Signorile

against fag bashers Paul Verhoeven (director of *Basic Instinct*), Ted Talley (scriptwriter of *The Silence of the Lambs*) and Howard Rosenman (producer of the new *Father of the Bride* as well as *Common Threads*).

Jodie Foster gets raked over the coals yet again, and the hypocrisy of Hollywood's "red ribbons" token gesture is cleverly contrasted with what they actually produce and how it contributes to gay-negative imagery. Talley: "I'm sorry about that poodle — that was a big mistake." (I bet.)

The work begins with too many empty zooms and disco throbs on the track — like people might get bored by the material — but settles down once the deftly segued talking heads take over. Tom Kalin shoots himself in the foot with some semiotic gobbledygook in defense of *Lambs*.

Beavan and Brown put into relief the real harm that the members of the Hollywood establishment do with their media products, as opposed to their self-congratulation and empty gestures off-screen. Like most effective documentaries, Beavan and Brown take sides and ram our faces in it.

Beavan and Brown also provide the program's opening teaser, *Innings*, which to the tune of "The In-Crowd" surveys the members of the "I'm Not Gay" club: Whitney Houston, George Michael, Brit soap star Jason Donovan and others. ▼

Rock Hudson's Home Movies
Roxie, June 25, 6 p.m.



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Future Imperfect

by Noreen C. Barnes

Just when you thought your own life was more than anyone could bear, Austrian directors Angela Hans Scheirl, Dietmar Schiepek and Ursula Purrer offer *Flaming Ears*, described in the gay film festival's program as a "futuristic tale of urban lesbian angst."

The future is seven centuries from now, and in this "year of the toads," 2700, it seems that the tobacco industry and the NRA still rule the world (though dykes get to be the central characters — outlaws, artists and arsonists). This is a world of vinyl, violence and bad haircuts, of devastation and destruction for the sake of a nameless revolution. The lesbians at the center of this bleak, disturbing vision of the future are both predators and prey, immersed in sex-club scenes countered by Christian iconography (it's still around), and the burning of edifices (literally) and each other (metaphorically).

The tangled trio at the center of this film are cartoonist Spy (although the place of the artist in this world is a tenuous one); Volley, a volatile, mercenary kind of gal who resembles Mr. Spock's long-lost daughter; and Nun (with head shorn and encased in red plastic to her neck), who



Nun, a necrophiliac nun encased in red plastic, has a passion for dead meat.

likes to consume dead animals of all kinds.

Some of the sex almost gets hot; misspelled subtitles might make a few of you grit your teeth, but compelling visuals (in a red, white and black palette, with lots of blue lighting) might keep you watching this fragmented, unsettling tale.

A "new lesbian aesthetic for the '90s"? Maybe.

Also playing with *Flaming Ears* is *Rosebud*, not your run-of-the-mill coming out story. ▼

Flaming Ears
Castro, June 25, 9:15 p.m.



Tom of Finland Documentary

Fatal Devotion

by Warren Sonbert

Tom of Finland's pornographic drawings have set the sexual tone for the gay community for decades, so no matter what I say about the new documentary *Daddy and The Muscle Academy* there will be a packed house.

It's too bad that the film, assembled by Tom's fellow countryman Ilppo Pohjola, is such a mess; it's not likely we'll be regaled with another on Tom in the near future.

Perhaps one has to be blessed with a Scandinavian sense of non-humor (of the Ingmar Bergman variety) to appreciate Pohjola's strategies, such as intersecting titles along the way like "Tom's First Steps" or "Tom Goes West" to cue for us acolytes the various Stations of the Cross of Tom's time on earth.

Many jokey types of the leather persuasion are interviewed for their recollections as to how and when and where they were exposed to their first Tom drawing: striking stuff.

Another intertitle hails "Nayland Blake: Critic and Artist." Blake does little to enhance his reputation with his passages of semiotic pontifical bilge about Tom's "tropes" and "structures" and "situated material." Man, Tom was a whack-off artist, not Derrida or Levi-Strauss. Such posturing is a sorry excuse for authenticating one's carnal pleasures.

But other "critics" detail the mutual influences between Tom and *Physique Pictorial Magazine* in the '50s, comparing the various shapings and moldings between the Athletic Model Guild and the porno king as if the Mannerists' descent from Michelangelo were at stake.

These aestheticians duly note the Nazi torture influence on Tom's "art," and Tom's infatuation with his Nazi lovers during WWII is detailed in the film's extensive, interweaving interview

with its subject. Unfortunately, never is this preoccupation called upon or delved into too deeply. Instead of placing them into some sort of context, this film celebrates Tom's Nazi swoonings!

Pohjola also enlists Jamaican, gay, black filmmaker Isaac Julien in this motion picture hagiography. But the editing here is so ungainly that as soon as Julien is about to make a finger-wagging comment on Tom's "white fantasy projections on big-dicked black men," his final words of "I suppose he thinks this is a compliment" are lopped off in midstream before the further phrase of criticism registers.

Sexy Beginning

The film begins sexily enough with the camera tracking through back-room paraphernalia (with scary sci-fi music on the track). Perfect specimen leather models humorlessly cavort. But this sober tone never varies for the doc's hour length. The repeated vocal interlappings of "I'm a Tom's man" could only please the cerebrally impaired. Plus the drawings—predictably rapidly intercut—are shown so boringly that their intensity and erotic content simply don't register (save for those already familiar with the material).

The film is worth any price of admission though for the repeated comments of one "Derk Dehner," president of the Tom of Finland Memorial Fan Club Society. This epitome of LA narcissism—earrings, blond ponytail, biker's gear—talks of "imagining myself having gay sex, with men," and wants to enshrine Tom's works and memorabilia "to establish a museum." Dehner's secrets-of-the-scrolls' attitude is all-too-symptomatic of the filmmakers' fatal devotion elsewhere. ▼

Daddy and the Muscle Academy
Castro, June 26 at 9 p.m.

Hookers, Faeries, Natives and Hussies

by Warren Sonbert

The gay film fest's closing night "The City and the Plains" show at the Roxie is a motley collection of videos. The big climax is Matthew Link's astute hustler interview tape, *Male Escorts of San Francisco*.

After a sly introduction of Rice-a-Roni packages and tourist shots of the Golden Gate Bridge with Tony Bennett warbling "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" on the track, five subjects of predictably varying age and type describe their experiences and takes on their past or present involvement in the world's oldest profession.

At first the video seems aggressively non-judgmental, with some of the trollops buying wholeheartedly into their wonderful altruism: "I'm a service provider," "I consider prostitution spiritual," "It's more worthwhile than getting a Ph.D.!" One or two find it degrading and would even discourage the budding curiosity of friends sniffing in that direction.

The wide-spectrum policy is greatly enhanced by the presence of Rafael, who's hardly a Hollywood typecasting street hustler. Though ungainly, this Daddy is clearly affable, good-humored and of generous spirit. One can see

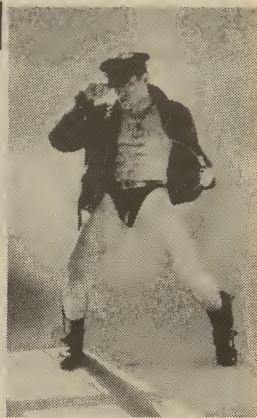
why he has clients. His story of fulfilling a request to recreate a customer's seduction at age 16 by the man's best friend's father is told with relish and bonhomie.

Though the intercutting is basic and refreshingly becalmed, Link intelligently doesn't go for the obvious or try to score easy points or comparisons. *The Male Escorts of San Francisco* is unquestionably the work of a nascent filmmaker.

Weekend Romps

Philippe Roques' *Faerie Tales* is as whimsical as its title suggests, so all of you curmudgeons out there (and you know who you are) had best beware. This unintentionally grim video celebrates the weekend romps of faeries (sic) named "Sunlight" and their ilk, who skip through Mother Nature's lanes and glades in their fey skirts, blowing bubbles, blowing forest reeds. If you prefer your men blowing other matter, steer clear.

Or come late, as the balance of the program is worthwhile. Tony Aynes' *Double Trouble* recounts the special difficulties that Australian gay and lesbian aborigines encounter in both a homophobic and racist society. Aynes corals a remarkably likable and articulate group of men and women into giving their insights into the adjustments,



strides and hopes of the gay/black experience *Down Under*.

One lesbian notes that she wanted to go "where that softness lives" after kissing her first woman. A man stresses the discrimination still hurled at him by fellow gays when he goes clubbing.

These are folk who find themselves on "Land Rights" marches one day, then on Gay Mardi Gras floats the next. Aynes is spirited with his nimble subjects, eschews didacticism, and puts on a real show, one that provides necessary information and entertains at the same time. Almost smashing.

This fairly remarkable program concludes with William Smartt's racy *The Q.C. Girls*. The "Q.C." stands for Queer Corner, where in McMinnville, Tennessee, the local gays hang out and cruise the trade just like their straight brethren do down the road.

(Continued on page 92)

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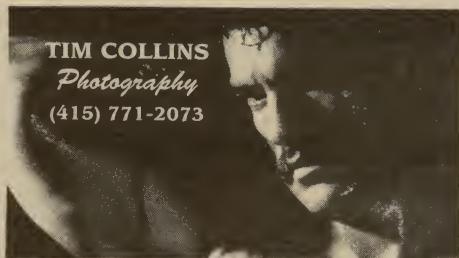
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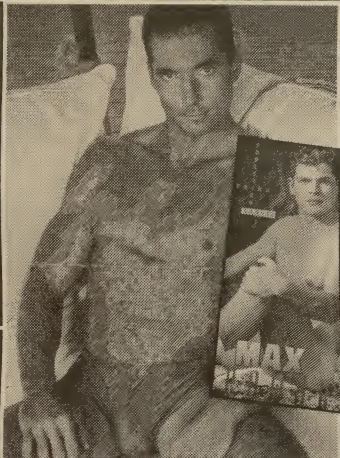
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Film Fest

'New Gay Shorts' Program

Up and Down, From Video to Film

by Warren Sonbert

Wild swings in quality and aesthetic sensibility characterize the "New Gay Short Films" program Saturday afternoon at the Castro. Comments follow on those available for preview.

After presenting opportunities to sneer and snicker at gauche breeder Stanford reunion dancing, and to be bemused by an "enlightened" mom, John Keitel's *An All-American Story* gradually reveals unsuspected avenues of depth and emotion. Don't groan your way to the lobby at the sound of tinkly piano music and the sight of baby pictures: John and Carter's gay bickerings (and bad grammar) lead to sterner stuff.

Stephen Kijak's *Nude Descending*, a sly celebration of Modernism (not to mention queer sex) is Elliptical Heaven. One especially appreciates the beauty of 16mm in the midst of make-do video-to-film transfers that dot the shorts program. In *Nude, Recollections of a Dead Lover* are again the order of the day, but here they unfold wistfully, with sentiment and a grin.

In Thomas Allen Harris' *Splash* (video to 16mm), a trendy-looking young black man spends his time frolicking in a pool when he's not dancing behind day-glo colored bars. He recalls his childhood — not being able to play with dolls, etc. Unfortunately, the telling isn't particularly memorable and neither is the aesthetic.

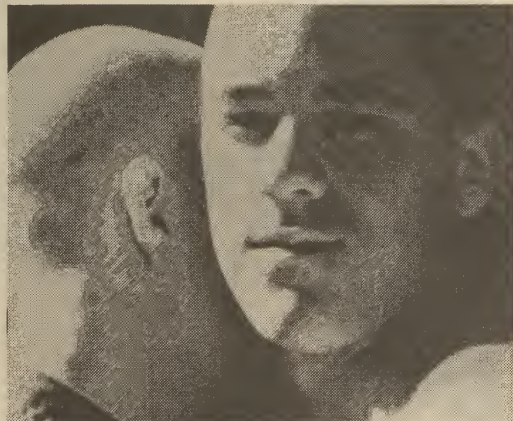
Dazzling Sketch

Next up is the super *Raising Nicholas* by Ferne Pearlstein, a dazzling sketch of an adopted Third World youngster being reared by an elderly gay dad. I adored the way the boy is introduced: nude, taking a bath and washed by his father at the tub. The director confronts fears of pederasty head-on with a cavalier disdain. Catch the intriguing rectangle framings via house and car windows — a pictorialist is definitely at work.

The Weight of Oceans by John Binner starts out slow and careens into a Magritte surrealism as digested by a gay Polanski. A man and woman sleep, and the bulk of the film (whose dream it is is never totally clear) is a black-and-white nightmare of welcome gross — or at least lively — homoerotic imagery. Fifties James Broughton psychodrama gives way to trendy punk posing.

The modest, one-minute *Helms = Death* is among the program's best. Silent, black and white, emulsion-scratched in the Brakhage tradition, this work displays raw anger and energy in its reiteration of the scrawled *Helms = Death* logo. The flagrant emphasis on decay makes for a powerful artistic/political statement.

In Steve Simpson's *The Wild Winds*, a dirty, old, potentially homicidal transvestite leaves his hound dog behind on the highway and picks up a young girl, whom he may or may not eventually molest. That's the fun part. Mostly he's given to maniacal



Local filmmaker John Binner's seven-minute work, *The Weight of Oceans*, is described by our own B.A.R. critic as careening "into a Magritte surrealism as digested by a gay (Roman) Polanski."

screams when he's not puffing cigarettes. Its inclusion by the festival's screening committee (even given Frame-line's apparent laxity in the realm of quality) is indefensible.

Faded Hopes

In contrast to some of the other works here, *R.S.V.P.* actually tries to assemble images in a filmic way — one shot follows another with a decided bent; there's an argument building between the frames. You want to kiss the screen. But one's hopes begin to fade as the film unfolds.

A group of friends, family and the lover of a recently deceased person with AIDS all listen in their separate spaces to the same Jessye Norman cut of "La Spectre de la Rose" from Berlioz' *Les Nuits d'Ete*.

The narrative conceit is intriguing, but the execution is limited, almost fascistic. The reactions range from glum to grim to sullen to copious weeping. This no-options approach hardly simulates the joys of art.

But the filmmakers aren't interested in art — their concerns are more didactic. Perhaps if someone were shown remembering the departed with, er, say, defiance or glee or confident resignation or fond bemusement, the accumulated recollections might have resonated differently. This maudlin and strait-jacketed exercise could only appeal to the easily manipulated.

By the way, the filmmakers might want to learn that there's no such work as "The Piano Concerto No. 4 by Mozart," the bogus opus announced on the sham radio show, *R.S.V.P.*, before the Berlioz. Mozart's early keyboard works were transcriptions of other composers and are always referred to as such. But such a lapse perfectly reflects the film's other blatant inadequacies. ▼

New Gay Short Films
Castro, June 27, 12 noon



'Rage and Desire'

Rage and Desire, tucked between the new works, unavailable for preview, by Pratibha Parmar (*Double the Trouble, Twice the Fun*) and Marlon Riggs (*Non, Je Ne Regrette Rien*) is Rupert Gabriel's portrait of and memorial to black gay photographer Rotimi Rani-Koyode. The form here is artsy, reverential and bold — in 17 minutes, Gabriel not only evokes a beautiful spirit, but also issues a manifesto for change inspired by Rani-Koyode's life and work. "He took it for granted that he was black and that he liked having sex with men," says the film's narrator, who adds that in his work Rani-Koyode dealt with "larger concerns" that included the "correspondences between contemporary and ancestral values."

Rage, Double and Regrette screen at 5 p.m. June 28 at the Roxie Cinema.

— Daniel Mangin

How We've Been 'Framed'

by Noreen C. Barnes

Karen Everett's *Framing Lesbian Fashion*, playing Parade evening at the Roxie as part of the "Fashion/Flicks" program, looks at the ways in which lesbians have expressed ourselves — through the clothes we wear and those all-important accessories.

How we choose to dress signals how receptive we are to each other. It tells others what part of the community we identify with — our public presentations speak more than a thousand words. The butch/femme reality is central to this work, as discussed by Joann Loulan, Sally Gearhart, Kitty Tsui and others.

The '50s bar scene of strict butch/femme roles, reinforced by pulp novels, was the only world a lesbian came out into — Gearhart affirms that world, restricted as it was, saying, "It was who we were."

Loulan notes that it was butch women who were on the Stonewall riot front lines, yet they were the women rejected by the women's movement shortly thereafter. The 1970s saw the rejection of femme as well, as the lesbian clone uniform — the "androgynous imperative" of boots, jeans, flannel shirts and short hair — was embraced as a political statement (even by those, Loulan among them,

who were not personally comfortable with it). Loulan describes this "struggle to look like my lovers" as "ridiculous."

Although liberating for a while, the dress code became boring, and with the return of more individual expression, came the renaissance of butch/femme, variations on gender in cross-dressing, dance-club costumes, the "lipstick lesbian," the unisex appeal of the young activist's requisite leather-jacket-with-stickers-and-some-interesting-piercings (the video includes a trip to the Gauntlet for a tongue piercing) and the politics of leather. The judging and labeling according to how we look are also discussed, particularly in terms of the attempts of some to police the appearance and activities of others.

Framing Lesbian Fashion captures our cultural history and our shifting perceptions of who we are. Gearhart points out that this knowledge of our history is critical, and, as the lesbian of the '90s has a range of choices and behaviors to play with, hopes that, although all of it might not be embraced, all of it may be affirmed.

'Framed' Again

Also on the "Fashion/Flicks" bill is Cheryl Farthing's *We've Been Framed*. Farthing interviews

a number of contemporary lesbians involved in films and filmmaking about their experiences as filmgoers and about the history of lesbian images in the cinema. The tape's only major flaw is that it fails to identify the women being interviewed (besides Indian-British Pratibha Parmar, I didn't know who the rest were); with so much printed information accompanying the narrative and the clips, it would have been nice to have had names accompany the faces.

We've Been Framed includes a range of great lesbian moments in the cinema from *Pandora's Box* (1929) to the 1990 *Henry and June's* recreation of a Parisian underground lesbian club. Parmar notes that positive images of lesbians are rare, adding how important those images are for our sense of self to develop, particularly for lesbians of color. In films, the lesbian has been, among other stereotypes, the vampire, predator, murderer, child-woman.

Many of the women cited *The Killing of Sister George* as the first film about lesbians they saw. Initially, a negative response was common, but when some of the women saw the film years later, as "out" lesbians in an all-women environment, they felt more positive about it. Even so, *Sister George* does collide with the popular Holly-



Director and her divas: filmmaker Karen Everett (bottom right) looks at lesbian couture, haute and otherwise, with the help of (from top) Kitty Tsui, Sally Gearhart and Joann Loulan.

wood view of the lesbian as someone who would predictably die (by murder or suicide), come to a bad end, or have to get married. For younger lesbians, the much more positive *Desert Hearts* is often cited as their first or most influential lesbian film experience.

Then there are the subversive readings of films about female friendships, relationships and the women "buddy" films. *Thelma and Louise* have already passed into the cultural iconography. Other examples include an interna-

tional range of works: *Razia Sultan*, *Times Square*, *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing*, *Lianna* and *Coup de Foudre*.

We've Been Framed is well-crafted, insightful, informative and timely commentary. And you'll never think of Doris Day as Calamity Jane singing "Whip, Crack Away" in quite the same way again.

Fashion/Flicks
Roxie, June 28, 7 p.m.

Community Advice

by Daniel Mangin

Silencio = Muerte" (Silence Equals Death) is the name of a gay film festival program of three tapes that explore various facets of the AIDS epidemic.

The well-used slogan remains as urgent as ever, as illustrated by the program's first offering, *AIDS in the Barrio*, by Peter Biella and Frances Negron. Their tape is certifiable proof that AIDS education and sex education, vital to the fight against the epidemic, are still in less than sufficient supply.

Ten-plus years into the epidemic, a considerable number of interviewees still don't "get it" that condoms prevent the spread of AIDS (or think that for some reason they aren't susceptible). Their rationales are often tinged with homophobia and denial, and in some cases ignore the fact that, as one participant explains, "people who don't consider themselves gay are just as much at risk" as anyone else. ... "It's not a matter of names, it's a matter of taking precautions."

The strengths of this tape are its utter honesty — it doesn't pretend that (religious and socially based) homophobia and misogyny don't exist — and its connection to the Latino community.

Advice From Within

All of the observations and all of the advice come from community members. *AIDS in the Barrio* is at times a

harrowing mirror, but it is equally clear that the potential for change lies within the community in the form of local opinion makers, sensitive clergy, educators, understanding family members and, most importantly, Hispanic people with AIDS themselves.

One story, a tragedy, reveals both the causes of and the solution to needless infections. A woman tells why she didn't use a condom even after her husband, who sits beside her as she relates her tale, tested positive for AIDS (and she had tested negative).

Her reasons: she loved her husband; knew he would "feel bad using condoms"; didn't want him to "think I didn't love him"; was afraid he might "feel hurt or abandoned"; "knew that he would feel bad since he has AIDS and I do not." She concludes, "So I didn't care about getting infected. That's why I didn't use condoms."

She later contracted AIDS. The tape counters this mind-set a few frames later with the advice of a clergyman who preaches, "To love is to want complete well-being for one's lover. Self-protection is an act of love."

AIDS in the Barrio eloquently extends this vital message.

Playing with *AIDS in the Barrio* are (In)Visible Women, reviewed (most favorably) in these pages last week, and Ray Navarro Memorial Tape.

Silencio Muerte
Roxie, June 27, 8:15 p.m.

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Film Fest

Sex, Laughs and Videotape

by Kate Bornstein

Fans of last year's dancing vagina in *We're Talking Vulva* should hustle your tickets now for the late-night festival program featuring *The Sluts and Goddesses Video Workshop* (which plays with Jane Cotts' *War on Lesbians*). My girlfriend and I watched this, and between laughs and giggles, we got a lot of good ideas.

The video by Annie Sprinkle describes itself as "exploring and embracing our sexual personas as sluts and goddesses." The slide whistles during the film's opening credits over a series of images of vaginas should provide the viewer with a clue as to the tongue-in-cheek (or tongue-in-somewhat) tone of the film.

Annie's delivery recalls Mr. Rogers, the Happy Hooker and Ram Dass. She is a real sexual trickster — a true goddess of queer culture. The women thankfully appear in many colors and shapes.

The video starts with a fa-



Annie Sprinkle opens up in *The Sluts and Goddesses Video Workshop*.

cial and makeup tips (I'm not making this up, girls). Don't get nervous; it's a comic rip and a wonderful one at that. As with all of Annie Sprinkle's work, *Sluts* has a wonderful sense of humor; it comes from the heart; and it takes the social charge off the subject of sex.

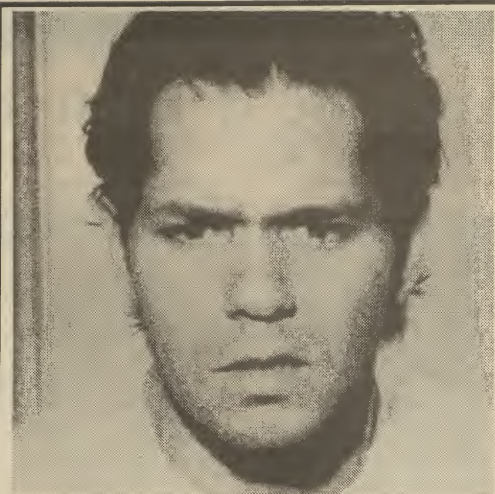
The video is shot in a quasi-educational format, adding to the lampoon experience. Puns abound, as do journeys from the sublime to the ridiculous. Sprinkle wants to get us to enjoy sex. Clearly, this is a case of the form enhancing the message.

There's much to learn from *Sluts*. Annie's section on breathing was particularly enlightening. The special effects are cheap, enjoyable and in wonderful abundance.

And let's not forget the sex part — it's hot, real hot, and it's done with a sense of humor. My girlfriend commented with a low whistle, "There's some good fucking in there!"

With the plethora of female ejaculation films coming (sorry) out (sorry again), Annie shows you a wonderful example of it. But the climax of the video (and no, I won't apologize for that) is an orgasm with charts and stopwatch. Annie, with several helping hands and a vibrator, clocks in — I kid you not — at five minutes and 10 seconds, and that's a long time to watch on film. Can the Sexual Olympics be far off? I give Annie Sprinkle and her crew a solid 10!

The Sluts and Goddesses Video Workshop
Roxie, June 27, 10:30 p.m.



The message in local filmmaker Danny Acosta's *A History of Violence*, which concerns a (possibly gay) killer of gays, is "heavy-handed — and just plain wrong," according to our reviewer.

'History of Violence' Program Is Neither

by Kate Bornstein

queen — and ultimately of homophobia.

The gay festival's "A History of Violence" program includes some great works — the main problems are the name of the program and the its namesake film.

I define violence as any non-consensual act — in any intensity, and with any resulting harm. I don't think that festival curator Mark Finch defines the term the same way, for he includes work that deals with S/M — a highly consensual act.

Does he equate S/M with violence? Or think that people who play with S/M are violent? In a recent conversation he assured me that this was not the case, and that a clarifying statement would be made at the beginning of the program.

Below are comments on the works in "A History of Violence" that were available for preview:

I Object, produced and directed by House of Color, analyzes the relationship between the social construct of "beauty" and violence through both image and text. It's uplifting political video-making.

How to Kill Her by Ana Maria Simo played in last year's festival — it's an over-long, sometimes fun song of revenge for unrequited love that should nurture the rage we feel when our lovers leave us for someone else.

Meridat Proscrita by Raul Ferrara-Balanquet and Enrique Novello Cascante is also a festival repeat in which two men struggle against the macho inculturation of homophobia. Interesting.

A Venezuelan entry, Haydee Pino's *Dialogo*, is a gritty, grainy Spanish-language portrait of a drag

The Other Woman by Andrea Slane is the sleeper of the program, and ultimately the most problematic in terms of its inclusion under the term "violence." The film/video is an artfully constructed series of images of women. One woman is increasingly leather-eroticized. The women engage in what appears to be very mild S/M role play. The image of the two women kissing seems loving to me; not at all violent.

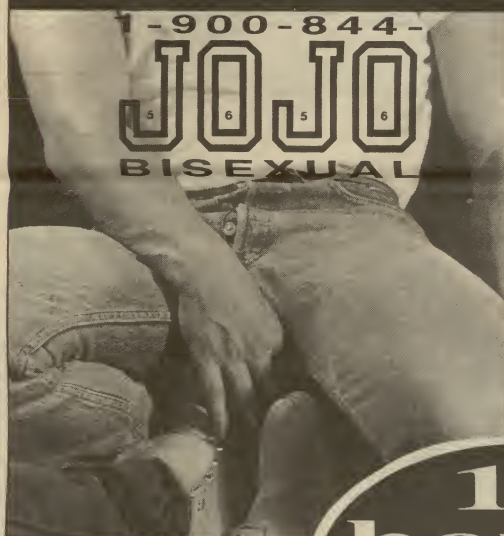
East River Park by Zoe Leonard is a chilling, tightly focused chronicle of a string of AIDS-related graffiti in a New York park. The film is silent, thereby highlighting the irony of silence = death.

Danny Acosta's *A History of Violence* ends this program. It's a poorly made, simplistic vision of violence about a gay (repressed gay?) man who becomes a mass killer of gays and then kills himself. According to the filmmaker (who strangely reinforces Dan Quayle's *Murphy Brown*-based cultural analysis), violence is a cause-and-effect phenomenon, chiefly rooted in television — as though violence and homophobia spring full-blown from a television antenna. To give him his due, Acosta throws the evils of misogyny and the Catholic religion into the mix, but the message here is heavy-handed — and just plain wrong.

Of the programs I previewed, "A History of Violence" was the weakest, though one might consider it for *The Other Woman*, and the festival repeats. ▼

A History of Violence
Roxie, June 26, 10 p.m.

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DIAL FOR REAL

Hookers

(Continued from page 89)

Some puffin' babes let the documentarians know right off who calls the shots in this lane of traffic. Dan and Marilyn Q. should check out the

sexual realities of this example of small-town U.S.A. in action. These brash, brazen hussies ("I'm looking to get laid — just like everyone else") are Here, Queer and they eminently Endear. ▼

The City and the Plains
Roxie, June 28, 9 p.m.

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SPORTS AND FITNESS

Softball

Unbeaten Stumbles — Twice

by Nancy Boutilier

One first-place team was unseated as both Team SM-MILE and Viacom upset previously unbeaten Rossi Meats/LYRIC to put SM-MILE and the Anspach Batcrackers in a first-place tie at the top of the C Division of the Gay Softball League. Uncle Bert's Bombers collected a pair of shutouts in their effort to take back their familiar roost atop the A Division standings, but the Pendulum Pirates kept their unbeaten record clean to hold on to that treasure chest of first place. Rolo also won, remaining unbeaten in B Division play, while the The Cafe

swept a double-header to maintain their first-place reign in the Women's Division.

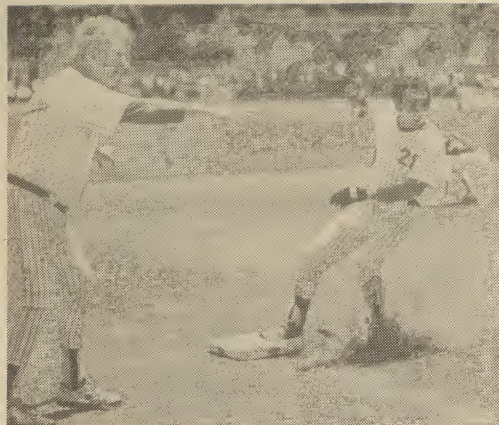
A team effort made SM-MILE's 17-7 win over RM/LYRIC possible, as every single SM-MILE player scored at least once, and Dwayne Thomas crossed the plate three times.

Extra-base hits gave Viacom the edge they needed to surprise RM/LYRIC, 17-2. Viacom's Rae Warren collected three doubles, and Russell Smith unleashed a pair of triples in his four-for-four day at the plate.

The Anspach Batcrackers earned their share of first place in comeback fashion as

Group Therapy, paced by the hitting of Devi Sanford and Wendy Columbo, grabbed five runs in the first inning. Anspach caught up in the fourth, added the go-ahead run in the fifth, and secured the 10-6 victory with a couple of insurance runs in the last two innings. Michele Wagner, Londa Anderson and home-run hitter Woody Hill provided the power for the Batcrackers.

Uncle Bert's Brats could only muster three hits against Uncle Bert's Bombers in a game that saw Uncle Bert himself take a crack at the plate. San Francisco's own Sultan of Swing unleashed a grounder to shortstop that



Stay, stay, stay: Rawhide's Outlaws defeated the Pendulum Bucs, 12-11, in last Sunday's play. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

only the lightning reflexes of Fremon Best could subdue, and alas, Uncle Bert, certainly a crowd-pleaser, was tossed out at first. Congratulations to Brat Rick Brattin for completing his first marathon by running down fly balls in the outfield, as the Bombers won, 12-0.

The Phonebooth did no better than the Brats, also eking out only three hits in a Bomber win. Shortstop Larry Huber continues to make the tough plays look easy, and teammate Tony Easley makes them look even easier — including a bare-handed snare on D Minor's pop fly. Mike Rios not only ripped a triple and went four-for-four on the day, but he also cashed in with the catch of the day, as the Bombers took their second victory, 7-0.

The Pendulum Pirates defense had a shutout through six innings while Aaron Nelson and Matt Hendricks sparked the offense in a 9-2 win over the Pilsner Penguins.

It may not figure in math class, but the East Bay Golden Bears scored nine runs on seven hits while the Eagle scored four runs on five hits, and it all adds up to a win for the Golden Bears, 9-4. John Heine cracked a solo blast for the winners.

Rock and Rolo

One of Mark Schultz's three hits for Rolo was a home run, and teammate December Wright hit safely four times to help rock and Rolo past the Huffin Puffins, 12-3.

The Puffins rebounded with a 17-5 win over the Cinch by exploding for six runs in both the second and the fifth innings. Legen Dean Edge launched a homer for the Cinch, and Bobby Docca scored two runs for the Puffins.

Marked by exciting play both in a losing effort and a winning one, the Pendulum Bucs spent the day swinging. After four innings, the Rawhide held a 11-2 lead, but Todd Rodrigue's grand slam sparked the Buc offense and Scott Cleff's double-play execution tightened the defense. As a result, going into the bottom of the seventh inning the game was locked in a 11-11 tie. Brad Hay of the Rawhide saw to it that the Buc buck stopped there, as he knocked in Michael Vetter with the winning run; the Outlaws won, 12-11.

Defense was hardly the key that turned the Bucs into winners against the Rainbow

Roos. No one knows the last time Mark Brown scored from third, but he did it twice in one day! But what brought the crowd to its feet with chants for Brown was when the pitcher took a thundering line drive off the shin on the mound and still managed to make the play at first base. Buc left fielder Kenny Russo made two clutch catches; Jeff Angus ripped a spectacular triple; and Mark Lapin hit four-for-four. Roo Rick Barrett unleashed a two-run homer in the losing effort.

Awards by Chris exploded with an eight-run rally in the second inning against Cafe Too. When Cafe Too answered with an eight-run rally of their own in the fourth inning, it was too little too late for Cafe Too as ABC walked away with an upset, 13-10.

Cafe Too rebounded with an afternoon victory over the Cinch, 9-3.

The momentum of the morning's win over Cafe Too carried into the afternoon as ABC scored their first two batters, Ellen McDougald and Denise McCullough, against the first-place Cafe. Then the Cafe got their chance at bat, and the ABC offense proved to be too little too early as every Cafe player scored to pull off a team effort and an 18-2 victory.

The Cafe also bettered the Mint, 15-0, thanks to a Dawn Furseth homer and Terri Taylor's three doubles.

The Elephant Walk continued to keep a stride behind The Cafe in the standings. Scoring 10 runs in the first inning against the Cinch, the E-Walk coasted to a 17-2 triumph, paced by Laurie Baker. Then Joan Mesker's triple and two doubles boosted the E-Walk to a second win of the day, 16-6, over Hanno's.

Pier 50/Olive Oil's bettered the Mint, 12-4, as Jill Taylor knocked two triples and a double in three trips to the plate.

Regular GSL play will be suspended for two weeks in order to observe Gay Pride Day, which will include a GSL beer booth in front of the State Building on that day, but GSL teams will participate in a number of different tournaments held over the Fourth of July holiday. And don't forget to dance your hightops off at Sizzle, a benefit for the Slammers women's basketball team and Team San Francisco at Pier 50/Olive Oil's, June 26 at 9 p.m. ▼

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Community

'Tevye' Charms at the Switch Hitters Ball

A Drag of an Evening



The E-Walk's Bobbi Saltzman nabbed first place in the Woman's Division for her unique interpretation of *Fiddler on the Roof's* Tevya. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

by Nancy Boutilier

The Switch Hitters tiara remains with Uncle Bert's Brats as Mark Maynard, knee brace and all, danced his way to a *Victor/Victoria* victory at the Gay Softball League's 10th Annual Switch Hitters Ball, held June 20 at the California Club.

Maynard, who hurt his knee practicing (no, not softball, dancing), had some spectacular support from a few top-hatted tappers, including last year's champion, Rick "Lucy" Brattin.

This year, for the first time, the men and women competed in separate divisions, and The Elephant Walk's Bobbi Saltzman transformed herself into a first-place Tevya. Reminiscent of *Fiddler on the Roof*, Saltzman dreamt what it might be like to be a rich man — and then went a step or two beyond. This Tevya imagined "If I were a gay man" and then "If I were a drag queen — hubba hubba hubba."

First runner-up in the Women's Division was

Frankie Jane, who proved she's as cute in lingerie as she is in coat and tie. The short-stop from Hanno's did a show-stopping "The Lady Is a Dyke."

Rolo's Steven Anderson switch-hit the crowd with his best shot doing "Benetar," with a well-synchronized band drumming and tooting away in the background.

Tracy Allen did Leticia's proud by moving past her aviator lenses and leather jacket to a slick miniskirt and legs to beg for. The Cockstars put a pretty spectacular pair of legs onstage, too, with a trumpy, campy "Chicago" dance number.

The Eagle's Tim Miller shaved beard, mustache and chest to put on a pert little Patty Andrews to wow the troops at the California Club; and despite being rejected by all the boys onstage, the Rawhide's "Girl From Ipanema" was one beach blanket bimbo worthy of both the laughter and applause received. Those were some buff beach balls bouncing around onstage. ▼



Beauty is never easy — more than a makeover at the Switch Hitters Ball. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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GBM, 226#, 6'1, lkng for a phone buddy. EXT. 4245

Ass massage, lite spanking. Me: GWM, 6'5, 40yo, 200#. You: cute GWM, 21-35yo, btm. Dad will take good care of your hot boy butt. Call now. EXT. 4246

Hot, fit, 50s pigwallow FFB needs big strongarm top fist for all-nite ruffstuf. Any age, ethnic. Be fanatic. EXT. 4247

Hot, 6' 32yo, 155#, gdlkng, shy, w/great body, hung big, seks gdlkng top hung even bigger. EXT. 4248

This 49yo GWM of SF is lkng for others of SF. GAM/GLM/GBM/GWM, 18-21yo, to screw me, lick me & suck me as well. I want to be yours. EXT. 4249

Butt eater for musc guy. GWM, slim, in shape, who likes to have his butt eaten by GWM, in shape, HIV+, no drugs, 28-45yo. EXT. 4250

Didn't get invited to the Solstice party? So come to this hot sex party on June 24. Free. Call for more info. EXT. 4251

Attrac, slim, smooth, HIV- Asian has hot mouth, throat & ass for well-hung, trim or musc WM. 3-ways? EXT. 4252

Hot, masc BM w/10" w/ of blk meat loves oral service. In rtnshp now but lover is too tired, too busy. Lkng for daytime affair on reg basis. Your place only. Must live in SF. Hung 8" + & under 40yo. EXT. 4253

GBM, 26yo, 6', 165#, good shape, hairy, enjoys dining, quiet nites at home, beach walks, etc. Serious only, 23-31yo, must be in good shape, hairy A+. Lkng for frndshp, romance, etc. Let's talk. EXT. 4254

Wntd: flaming, limp-wristed, candyass, pansy sissyboy to embarrass me in front of my friends & family. Unrepentant child of incest whose interest include everything from Ann B. Davis to Angela Davis seks freak of nature for fun & amusement. EXT. 4255

Very attrac Piscean, 36yo, 6'3, 140#, brn/brn, chiseled features, swimmer's bld, cln-shvn, into biking, scuba, walks. Live in SD, moving to SF, skng companion w/like intererests/qualities, healthy/clean, Mediterranean? Bl/grn eyes A+ or...? EXT. 4256

This 49yo GWM of SF wants to give GAM/GBM/GLMs or other GWMs a nice, warm naked massage. I want to stimulate your whole body, front & back OK. EXT. 4257

Blk men only. Europn GWM, 44yo, 163#, dark hair, 'stache, lkng for smooth (l) BMs under 40yo for slow, safe, intensive sexual adventures only on reg basis. No fems, fats. Serious only pls. Call for details. EXT. 4258

Asian/Latin, 18-30yo. Like taking it? Having both ends worked? Very hndsm Sicilian, 39yo, in shape — you be too. Call when you need it bad. EXT. 4259

GAM, 43yo, 5'9, athletic, smooth swimmer's bld, seks similar physically active, cln-cut WM. Friends to sports, cultural arts, camping & poss rtnshp. EXT. 4201

Masc, attrac btm avail for cpls or small groups. Have a mountable butt & a hot ltaln tongue. EXT. 4202

1st time for me! I'm wht, bi-curious, 21yo. You're same, not over 21yo. Call to set up a time & place. Very pvt, pls! EXT. 4203

This 49yo doggie is waiting to be in the arms of a GWM/GBM/GAM as your doggie. I'll bend on my hands & knees & my hole is ready 24 hrs a day for your cock. EXT. 4204

Kiss, cuddle, lick, JO. Horny, affec, hndsm, boyish, JO-obsessed guy wants huge-hung buddy to play with. Love to stroke, watch each other, porn vids, pumps, distance shots, grease, smk, ckrings, big wet loads. Show it off for me. EXT. 4205

Musc, fit Asian, 30s, seks hot Asian, 30-40yo, HIV+, to work my hot tongue on your outstretched body. No fems. EXT. 4206

You/me: Asian, trim, musc, HIV+, into full-body massage. You: hard body/dick, 20-30s, wanting hot tongue & hard strokes. Call & lv message. EXT. 4207

Financial Dist daddy. Intelligent mentor, passionate lover for men, 25-30s. Oral, great kisser, GWM, 48yo, 5'9, 158#, blond, healthy HIV+, smkr. Let's make love 1st, then pillow talk. Days OK. EXT. 4208

Construction studs, bl collar & military types wntd by same for dirty, sweaty action. Me: yng 45yo, tattoo, 'stache, big dick, hairy, musc, 5'11, 170#, HIV-. You: 25-40yo, husky, hot, hungry, 'stache, all male. E Bay pref. Into hards, 4x4s, dirty 501s, ripped Tshirts, WS, leather, quiet eves. EXT. 4209

Prof gay cpl, mid-30s & 40s, gdlkng, cln-cut, in shape, HIV+, skng 20-40yo, short, musc, smooth BB type for safe sex & good times. Right person could get great free treatment, the way he desires & deserves. No fats, fems. EXT. 4210

E Bay only. Gdlkng Filipino, 22yo, 150#, seks friends, GWM/GLM/ltaln, 18-35yo, to go out for dancing, movies, play sports, talk, travel, spend nites together. Must have sense of humor. EXT. 4211

Afternoon fun. GWM, 40s, top, lkng for Oakland btm, pref 8" cut cocks, thick, open-wide btms. EXT. 4212

Hot ltaln offers serious oral servicing on reg basis to men who need prolonged licking & sucking. EXT. 4213

I'm lkng to be held by a GAM/GWM/GBM. This 49yo GWM is waiting to be held in your loving arms. Both my cock & ass are ready to be serviced by you. EXT. 4214

Small endowed? Hndsm, athletic, HIV-man, 32yo, wants to meet you! Attracted to small-endowed men in good shape, HIV+, masc. I'm serious, understanding. You'll really turn me on! EXT. 4215

Reno stable prof GM, 55yo, 5'11, 175#, Fr/a, Gr/p, seks yng, 18-25yo, skinny W/B/Hover w/under 18 cm & the libido from hell. EXT. 4216

Psychic? Paranormal exprnc? Exotic, esoteric, spiritual pursuit? Me too. Let's talk. Blessed be. EXT. 4217

You're a BM, 18-55yo, masc, not obese & interested in any of the following: politics, history, health care, hip-hop dancing, computers &/or sex. I'm a gdlkng 41yo WM in a 10-yr rtnshp skng sex &/or intellectual stimulation. EXT. 4218

European GM, 25yo, 5'10, cute, slim, Berkeley student, seks attrac & smart friends his age for hanging out & sex. EXT. 4219

Bi-curious? Attrac GWM, 68yo, will train 18-45yo man for ongoing man-to-man action. All scenes considered. EXT. 4220

Scat slut — yng, cute guys seks yng, cute, musc guy to feed me. EXT. 4221

Athletic WM, 32yo, wants to meet tall, masc man, 24-38yo, who enjoys outdoor activities (biking, hiking), evening workouts, romantic nites. Positive outlook, HIV-, non-smkrs. EXT. 4222

Attrac, sexy, 27yo, newly HIV+, healthy GBM seks intelligent, sincere man for dating. Should be health-conscious & adventuresome. EXT. 4197

This 49yo wht doggie is lkng to be rimmed every Fri & Sat nite by 18-20yo GWM/GBM/GAM. I'm waiting to roll on my side & lay on my back. EXT. 4198

WM, 40s, masc, tan & healthy. I've got a big, fat dick (7x7 1/2") seks other big, hung guys for fun. Give me a call. Let's talk. EXT. 4199

Hot top needed! Horny, gdlkng, 26yo GWM needs a hot top (8" or more) to pls my 23yo lover in heat while I watch! EXT. 4200

GWM bear, 32yo, masc, hndsm, top, Gr/a, Fr/p, HIV+, seks hairy, affec btm bear for friend/sex. Love beards. EXT. 4176

GAM, 27yo, 5'9, 155#, healthy, gdlkng, HIV+, seks similar GWM, 25-35yo, for friend, sex.... Let's talk. EXT. 4177

Tall & musc GWM who is a submsv, 63yo, HIV-, 6'2, 192# BB, seks tall, domnt top. EXT. 4178

I want to suck, gnaw & chew on that big wht dick till it jizzes threds of hot wht cum all over my chocolate brn face. Then sleep w/it in my mouth till it's ready for the next shot. EXT. 4179

Masc top GWM, 45yo, 5'10, 150#, seks Asian, 30-50yo, for quality, sincere rtnshp. EXT. 4180

Hung, blk, E Bay top man enjoys husky, mature, sincere btms. I'm 40yo, 5'9, 170#, 9 1/2". EXT. 4181

SF GWM, 34yo, 6'2, 220#, HIV-, lkng for a GWM who likes to lay back & let me suck his hot cock. EXT. 4182

GAM, 35yo, 125#, cln-cut, smooth-skinned, lkng for a GWM, 32-42yo, for fun safe times. Enjoy movies, dining. EXT. 4183

Yours, mine, ours. SF leather-oriented cpl, 41 & 32yo, seks 3rd to share life, love & more. EXT. 4184

I'm lkng to be a house slave totally naked for a GAM master, along w/being a slave for GWM & GBM masters. I've a nice ass, cock & manhole. EXT. 4185

Hot ltaln ex-football jock seks servicing on reg basis. All replies considered. EXT. 4186

Peninsula GWM, 39yo, skng Asian man for friend/rtnshp. Let's be friends, hopefully more will develop. Take a chance, call. EXT. 4187

If you're a GWM, 50-65yo, HIV-, former Jack Bath patron who enjoys his big, thick dick sucked for hours, well, this attrac GBM, 40s, HIV-, is for you. EXT. 4188

Let's make love 1st, then get acquainted by the fireplace. Love kissing, nipple work, oral affec w/men 25-40ish. I'm a GWM, 48yo, 5'9, 158#, blond, healthy HIV+, smkr, rtnshp poss. Days OK. EXT. 4189

Do you like to JO, blow, etc? Are you 21yo or yng, wht, horny & only want one thing? Me too! Let's have our fantasy go wild. EXT. 4190

I've got a dream to meet a GWM w/chld to share responsibility to help grow & prepare for the years to come. EXT. 4191

This 49yo wht doggie is lkng to have an enema, be shaved, as well as be screwed by yng Asians/Latins, 18-20yo, at my apt. Call. EXT. 4192

JO lover seks big-dick JO buddies. Me: hot, horny, hndsm, great attitude, 5'11, 175#, 30yo, into long, greasy JO sessions w/hung men up to 45yo. Affec, fun, frndly, licensed masseur, porn, pumps, smk, grease. Distance/vol shooters, repeats welcome. EXT. 4193

WM, 39yo, wants to meet GAM for sex buddy. You: Asian, top/btm. Let's work my ass or yours. Let's fuck, suck or JO. EXT. 4194

Sexy, bearded FFT WM wants experd, hot, attrac FFB WM. Your SF place. Confidential & safe. EXT. 4195

Hot ltaln ex-football jock needs butt mounted & pumped on reg basis. Call for description. All replies considered. EXT. 4196

Pool

It's Tie-Breaker Time

A tie-breaking match between the two top seeds, White Swallow Terminators and Q Club, will decide the SF Pool Association's Spring '92 City Championship.

On June 16, the two teams clashed at the Swallow in the first of the best-of-three match series and no one would have predicted the lopsided 9-1 Terminators win. Numerous squandered opportunities by Q Club were the culprit.

The June 18 rematch at Q Club had everyone expecting a much closer contest. The home-table advantage is more significant here than for any other team in the league. Q Club has larger nine foot tables, super-fast simonis cloth and lighter cue balls. And, of course, all four Q Club starters, Jun Valiao, Rex Norman, Glen Umemoto and Glenn White, all spend countless hours playing on this equipment.

Ever so, the Terminators broke out to a first-quarter lead that had mounted to 6-3 before a victory by Valiao over Terminator Lauren Ward marked the turning point in the match. A subsequent win by Umemoto and back-to-back table runs by Norman and Valiao put the hosts up 7-6.

E.Z. managed to stop the Terminators' slide with an outrageous, crowd-pleasing bank shot on the way to a three-ball run-out, but Umemoto followed with a win that put Q Club a win away from victory at 8-7.

Luby Pelletier seemed poised to tie the match when Rex Norman's 8-ball bank shot went wide in the match's 16th game, but Norman got the roll of the night when the cue ball rolled behind and virtually froze to the 8-ball on the opposite end of the table from Luby's remaining three balls. Luby's two rail kick shot failed to make a hit and Rex got ball-in-hand to tap in the 8-ball for the match victory that forces this week's tie-breaker.

Reflections Killer Beeez hosted Cinch Starriders in the single match to determine the third-place winner. The Starriders' Lynn Westhoven delivered the final blow in their 9-6 victory.

Two league individuals tournaments were played on the last two weekends. On June 14, the Rising Star Tournament drew a full field to Club Interlude, where Lisa Duncan claimed the crown undefeated in match play. Orlando Cruz was second, Kip Punahele third and Rudy Perez earned the fourth-place trophy.

June 20 was the Star Search contest, open to players who finished the season rated at .500 or lower. Rick Bradford, who more frequently plays in the All-Star contest, made up for his disappointing season with a win here. Liane Ingham played strongly in her path to second place. Carl Carr finished third and Lisa Radler finished fourth. Dial JOE-POOL for SFPA information. ▼

Out There

(Continued from page 82)

respond to low-road humor supplemented with the occasional Lesbian Dial-a-Date segment.' "

LIPSTICK LESBIANS, TAKE NOTE: *Variety* June 17 reports that "MCA/Universal Home Video has joined forces with Mary Kay Cosmetics to market previously viewed copies of *Fried Green Tomatoes*. Consumers who purchase a used rental copy of the tape are eligible to receive a free lipstick and a complimentary makeover by a Mary Kay beauty consultant. ... The organization looks at *Tomatoes* as 'a cost-effective way to generate quality leads for our beauty agents.' The audience for the cosmetics and for the film are believed to be largely overlapping. In the film Kathy Bates becomes a beauty consultant as part of her process of developing better self-esteem."

'FORTUNE' LIVE AND ON FILM: Todd Everett reviews the legit *Fortune* and *Men's Eyes* at the Coast Playhouse in the June 15 *Variety*. "Director David Galligan has updated *Fortune* to 1978 and changed one of the characters from black to Caucasian. It follows the arrival of fresh young Smitty and his debasement at the hands of his cellmates. The three are as stereotyped as the Village People: Queenie's a flamboyant fellow whose repertoire of impersonations includes what seems to be every femme star of the '30s. Galligan's updating seems mainly

an excuse to use songs including Gloria Gaynor's 'I Will Survive.' " The celluloid Queenie, Michael Greer, will introduce the film version of the play at a 2 p.m. Castro screening June 26.

FEMALE AT LAST: *National Enquirer* June 23 reports that "Sarah Luiz is 100 percent female at last after escaping from a nightmare twilight world where she was half male, half female. And now she proudly carries a sworn affidavit from her doctor to prove she's totally female. 'It's taken 26 years, but I'm finally the way God intended me to be,' Sarah triumphantly told the *Enquirer*. Last summer she got a call from a wealthy New York businessman. 'He said he'd seen me on *Larry King Live* and couldn't put my suffering out of his mind.' He offered to pay for the operation."

GAY FILM WINS PRIZE: *Variety* June 16 also reports that "Christian M. Taylor of NYU film school won a gold medal at the Student Academy Awards and a Director's Guild of America Student Film Award for his 30-minute dramatic pic, *The Lady in Waiting*. 'An offbeat Pygmalion-Galatea relationship that develops in an elevator between a British spinster and a black NY drag queen during the 1977 Manhattan blackout.' The honorary foreign film award went to director John Roberts and producer Michele Camarda of England's National Film and TV School for *This Boy's Story*, a 50-minute character study of a British lad who idolizes a soccer player." ▼

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 25

• **'Fierce Love: Stories From Black Gay Life':** Pomo Afro Homos present their acclaimed performance that features stories ruminating on the black gay male experience. Hilarious! June 25-26, 8 p.m.; also June 26, 10 p.m. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. 861-7933.

• **'Naked Women':** Performance artist Diviana Ingravallo's new multimedia work is a provocative journey through the female mind, body & spirit. June 25-27, 8 p.m. \$10-12. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St./So. Van Ness, SF. 861-5079.

• **'Radical Leather SEXART Salon':** Mark I. Chester discusses slides of his risk sex art doc photos 7-7:30 p.m. Chester hosts readings, performances & more by Pat Califia, Joseph Bean, Dorothy Allison, Lily Brandrop, Paul Reed, Jack Davis, Carol Queen & Wayne Corbitt 8 p.m. \$10-15 (no one turned away for lack of funds) benefits production of a Chester monograph. Community Space, 848 Divisadero/McAllister, SF. 544-1136.

• **'Whatever Happened to B.B. Jane?':** Wayne Buidens' smash-hit comedy, musical, camp drag spoof stars Miss Ann Drogynous & Matthew Martin. Don't miss it. Warhol superstar Holly Woodlawn makes a special guest appearance at June 26 show only. June 25-27, 8 p.m. \$13-15. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St./Mission, SF. 863-7576.

• **'Cross-Dressing in the Depression':** Erin Cressida Wilson's play is a nostalgic tale of adolescent discovery. Thru July 19, Wed.-Sat., 8:30 p.m.; Sun., 2 & 7:30 p.m. \$12-21. Magic Theatre, Ft. Mason Center, Bldg. D, SF. 441-8822.

• **'The Gardening of Thomas D':** The Paul Dresner Ensemble presents Rinde Eckert's harsh but evocative performance — inspired by Dante's *Divine Comedy* — on living in the world today, a darkened world filled with greed, lies, self-love, hunger & money-worship. June 25-28, 8:30 p.m. \$16-18. Cowell Theatre, Ft. Mason Center, SF. 392-4400.

• **'Berlin Angels':** The Canadian interdisciplinary performance group JumpStart presents Nelson Gray & Lee Eisler's modern reworking of the Greek myth of Orpheus & Eurydice as told against the rise of the Third Reich & the resulting Holocaust. June 25-28, 8:30 p.m. \$14-16. Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida/17th St., SF. 621-7797.

• **'On a Queer Day You Can See Forever':** Artwork by six artists — Deborah Bright, Susan Mabel Maney, Eli Polcinelli, Joe Smoke, Chuck Stallard and Michael Tidmus — whose photographically-based work emerges from a strong, new gay cultural identity on view thru July 4, Tue.-Sat., 12-5 p.m. Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission/7th St., SF. 431-6911.

• **'Gay & Lesbian Artists' Alliance Spring Group Show:** Artwork in various media by 20 artists on view thru June 28, 3-11 p.m. Bayfront Gallery, Herbst Pavilion, Ft. Mason Center, SF. 441-5706.

• **1st National Conference of Lesbians & Gays in Mainstream Media:** Sponsored by the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Assn. and SF Media Alliance June 25-27. Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, 8th St. & Mission, SF. 474-5991.

• **'Chop From the Top' Rally & Speak-Out:** Coalition Against Budget Cuts protests proposed state cuts that will affect families, the poor, state workers & students, those on GA, MediCal & SSI. 6-8:30 p.m. SEIU Local 87 Auditorium, 240 Golden Gate, SF. (510) 540-5285.

• **'Our Privacy Rights: The Right Wing Attacks on Abortion Rights & Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Rights':** The National Lawyers Guild presents various speakers responding to current legal attacks on abortion & HIV-positives. 7-9 p.m. Hastings College of Law, Alumni Reception Center (2nd floor), 200 McAllister, SF. 285-5067.

FRIDAY 26

• **Country/Western Dance:** Celebrate lesbian/gay/bi pride with DJ Alane Freund. Dance performance, free dance lessons, non-alcoholic drinks for sale, all welcome. \$7-12 benefits Women's Voices events at Old Wives' Tales Bookstore, First Congregational Church, Dana & Channing Way, Berkeley. 821-4675.

• **'I Know I Am, But What Are You?':** A Queer Event Open to All Genders: Lingerie party hosted by Jack Davis & Keith Hennessy. Prizes awarded in many categories. BYO libations. 9 p.m. \$5 wearing lingerie, underwear, pajamas; \$50 without (no one turned away). Community Space, 848 Divisadero/McAllister, SF.

• **'Hoedown: A Country/Western Dance':** Foggy City Dancers presents an evening of two-stepping for lesbians, gay men & their friends 8 p.m.-1 a.m. \$5 w/lier or ad, \$6 at door benefits "Pink Triangles in Red Square: A Journey to Russia in 1993." St. Paulus Church, Gough & Eddy, SF.

• **'Sizzle':** Start Pride weekend with dancing! Doors at 9 p.m. \$6 benefits Team SF. SF Slammers women's basketball team & Gay Games IV. Olive Oil's, Pier 50 (off 3rd St.), SF.

• **'Theatre Rhinoceros' Harbor Lights Cruise:** The gay/lesbian theatre company celebrates Pride with a cruise on the bay featuring dancing, hors d'oeuvres, no-host bar & viewing deck. 9 p.m.-12 a.m. \$50. Ships leaves from Pier 39. 861-5079.

• **'The Gospel According to Wayne — Waves of Gravity & Time':** Wayne Corbitt, "HIV+ homo radical living on the edge," performs his sermon of life, survival & self-determination in the African-American Pentecostal tradition. June 26-27, 8 p.m. \$10. The Marsh, 968 Valencia/21st St., SF. 641-0235.

• **'No More Pain':** David Austin's drama deals with individuals, their relationships & their choices — dealing with the cry for relief by the terminally ill, suicide, euthanasia, AIDS, abortion & abuse in relationships. June 26-27, 8 p.m. \$12-50. On Broadway Theater, 435 Broadway/Kearny, SF. (510) 762-BASS.

• **'A Different Light: Lev Raphael reads from his collection of short stories, Dancing on Tisha B'Av, 7:30 p.m. Free. 489 Castro/18th St., SF. 431-0891.**

• **'Gay Asian Pacific Alliance's "With/Out Consent: Building Foundations Toward Empowerment":** A conference on HIV, activism & Pacific Islander/Asian gay & bisexual leadership. June 26-27. Free. Miyako Hotel, SF. Vince, 928-3409; 282-GAPA or 575-3944.

• **'Girth & Mirth Club/SF:** The club for chubby gay men & their admirers presents the "Sweet 16" anniversary party. The biggest party of the year features pianist Sergio Sarco, keyboardist Chris Arevalo & Richard Sanchez of B.B. Jane fame. 8 p.m. \$7-10. 176-B Page, SF. 824-0260.

• **'Mincher/Wilcox Gallery:** "Perverse/Nature" group art exhibit. Also William Burroughs' shotgun woodblock prints & original texts, "The Seven Deadly Sins." On view thru June 28, 228 Grant, SF. 433-4660.

• **'Oil Paintings by Sergio Ferro:** Oil paintings on canvas featuring the human body by the well-known Brazilian painter on view thru June 30. Eleonore Austerer Gallery, 540 Sutter, SF. 986-2244.



• **'Wild Rice Greetings' New Greeting Cards:** Designed to promote ethnic diversity and help break stereotypes of Asian men, Wild Rice Greetings introduces its first line of greeting cards at the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance booth in the Civic Center on Gay Pride Day June 28. Proceeds from the sale benefit the GAPA Community HIV Project. Stop by the booth, meet the models and help promote AIDS education.

• **'Soblonksi':** Z Collective presents Ken Prestinzi's exploration of patriarchy & picket fences, the Pentagon & the Pentacost. The death & mysterious resurrection of Gen. Henry Soblonksi lead to family crisis & government high jinx in this farcical look at religious & military authority as seen through the eyes of an American family. Thru July 13, Fri.-Mon., 8 p.m. \$10, no one turned away for lack of funds. Central YMCA, 121 Leavenworth/Golden Gate, SF. 543-9505.

• **'At Home in Hades':** Theatre Pomegranate & Dance Current create a dance dramatization of the descent into the underworld using the Greek myths of Persephone & Orpheus — a contemporary insight of the Hades experience. Thru July 11, Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m. \$4-8. Theatre Pomegranate, 495 Clementina/5th St., SF. 512-7965.

SATURDAY 27

• **'Harvey Milk Club HIV Issues Committee Yard Sale:** Help send two activists to the Intl. AIDS Conference in Amsterdam. Call Ed to donate items, 252-5773.

• **'Xplicit Players' Top-Free Picnic:** All invited to undress in solidarity & celebration with the East Coast Top-Free 10, women who dared to bare their chests in public. It's best to be fully seen not as sexual symbols but as equal people happy being ourselves. Picnic 11 a.m.; games 1 p.m.; performances 3 p.m. MLK Jr. Park, Center & MLK Jr. Way, Berkeley. (510)-0907.

• **'Family Day Picnic:** Lesbian/Gay Parents Group celebrates Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week. Bring your family & dish to share. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Douglas Park, Douglas & Clipper, SF. 457-1115.

• **'Colors':** DJs Chili D & Spice C spin tunes for your dancing pleasure for Pride weekend. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 295 China Basin Way (Pier 50 off 3rd St.), SF.

• **'Bear Bust':** Bearhug/Leather Bears present a bear bust to benefit Bear Expo '93. 2-5 p.m. Watering Hole Saloon, 1145 Folsom/7th St., SF. 647-9127.

• **'Military Fantasy Ball':** The Phoenix Uniform Club's 15th anniversary party. 7:30 p.m. \$15 adv., \$20. The Green Room, War Memorial Veterans Bldg., 401 Van Ness/McAllister, SF. Dave, (408) 241-4447.

• **'Amazing Wild Abandon Dance Party':** Live music from the Otherworlds for your free dancing pleasure in a smoke-free scene. Queers welcome. 9 p.m. \$5, no one turned away. Community Space, 848 Divisadero/McAllister, SF.

• **'Klubstutute:** The homophile nightclub & cabaret is summing in Berkeley! Featuring the band Hot Revolt. All ages, \$3 (free before 10 p.m.). 1 Bolivar, Berkeley.

• **'The Michael Greer Show':** Our actor, singer, comic, star of stage, screen, television & cabaret for almost 20 years returns with his hilarious show during Pride weekend. June 27 at 8 & 10 p.m., June 28 at 8 p.m. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. Call 861-7933.

• **2nd Visual Arts Exhibit & Performing Arts Show of Latino/Latina Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Artists:** Closing reception & party begins 8 p.m. Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission/24th St., SF. 647-7655.

• **'Goddess Remembered' & 'Burning Times':** Two documentary videos, the former about prehistoric goddess religion, the latter about Christianity's historical persecution of women & woman-power — "witchcraft." 7:30-10 p.m. Free. Two Sisters Bookshop, 605 Cambridge, Menlo Park. 323-4778.

• **'Part of the Family: Gay & Lesbian Literature in the Mainstream':** As part of the American Library Assn.'s annual conference, Booklist magazine presents a panel discussion featuring the nation's finest lesbian/gay writers: Dorothy Allison, Christopher Bram, Margaret Erhart, Michael Nava & Lev Raphael. 2-4 p.m. SF Hilton, Imperial Bldg. meeting room. Ray Olson, (800) 545-2433 ext. 5715 or (312) 280-5756.

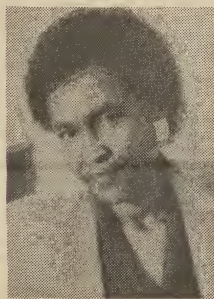
• **'Penis Enlargement Seminar':** Professional vacuum pump instruction by Dr. Joel Kaplan. Equipment sold. June 27-28. Castro location. 864-0676.

• **Golden Gate Connection:** A social club for heavy-set men & their admirers celebrates Gay Pride with a finger-food potluck with raffle, door prizes & bingo. 5-11 p.m. \$5 w/dish, \$10 without. Wawona Lodge, 20th Ave. & Wawona, SF. Bobbi, 871-7870; Arlen, (510) 233-6503.

• **'Black & White Men Together (BWMT) Rap/Social Night:** "Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places?" All welcome. Refreshments served. Doors 6:30 p.m., rap 7 p.m. sharp. Donation suggested. 1350 Waller/Masonic, SF. 826-BWMT.

• **Shamakami & Trikone:** Join lesbian, gay & bi South Asians in a festive pre-Pride Parade party with a catered full-course Indian dinner & dance with cultural entertainment. All welcome. 442-7958.

• **Club Mud:** The club for gay men dedicated to wet & muddy boots & Levi's presents its 6th anniversary/Mud Olympics party featuring tug of war, auto tire scramble, greased human pig wrestling, wet T-shirt contest, T-shirt rip & the first Mud wedding. To support Levi's refusal to fund the homophobic Boy Scouts, men who bring new 50's to shrink get a hefty admission discount. (707) 869-0546.



Linda Tillery and her Motown Band perform June 27 in Oakland. See Hot Tips.

SUNDAY 28

• **Instant Video Rushes:** BML Video, commissioned by the Parade Committee to videotape today's parade, will screen video rushes continuously beginning at 2:30 p.m. at the Eagle, 12th St. & Harrison; Headquarters, 469 Castro/Market; Polk Guck, Post & Polk; and Castro Station, 440 Castro/Market.

• **Living Sober's Gay Pride Celebration Dance:** The conference for gays & lesbians in alcohol recovery hosts a clean & sober dance fundraiser 4-8 p.m. AA meeting (signed for hearing impaired) 3-4 p.m. Wheelchair access, childcare provided. \$8-15. Green Room, War Memorial Veterans Bldg., 401 Van Ness/McAllister, SF.

• **A Different Light:** Writer Paul Monette signs copies of his new memoir, *Becoming a Man, Half a Life Story*. 7:30 p.m. Free. 489 Castro/18th St., SF. 431-0891.

• **'Black Poets With Attitude':** Joy Holland, Wanda Sabir, Avotcja, Beverly Garrett & Abimbola Adama are women poets who sizzle, snap & pop through verses that will soothe your soul & excite your hormones. 7:30 p.m. Donatella, La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 849-2568.

• **Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE):** Senior cable car for Freedom Day Parade leaves GLOE, 1853 Market, at 9:15 a.m. Lunch follows parade in GLOE yard. 626-7000.

• **Gay Community Services:** Free wienie roast for lesbian/gay homeless 4-6 p.m. 585 Grove, SF (3 blocks from City Hall). 431-4466.

• **Girth & Mirth Club/SF:** Chubby gay men & their admirers present a post-parade "open house" 4-8 p.m. 176-B Page, SF. 824-0260.

• **Metropolitan Community Church/SF:** 7 p.m. service with Rev. Jim Mitulski on "Transforming Christianity." Choirs from 5 Northern California MCCs join MCCSF to celebrate Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day. 150 Eureka, SF. 863-4434.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

• **'We're Here, We're Queer, We're Funny':** Our favorite comedy extravaganza June 27, starring himself, M. Capurro, Monica Palacios, Karen Ripley, Lisa Geduldig. Like That Theater (of the Asian AIDS Project). A portion of the Fund. Two shows: 7 & 9:30 p.m. \$13. Great American, 885-O-750.

• **1992 Ms. Gay Universe Pageant:** The Elaine Task pageant, hosted by Tom Ammann and Tina Aida, marks national costume competitions with 4,100 cash prizes on AIDS. Barangay, Frijoles for Affirmative Action, Wagon AIDS Hotline of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Luvivor? June 28 at 7:30 p.m. \$15 adv. (headlines) \$20. SF. Call 703-8880.

• **'Stompin' at the Savoy South of Market':** Ms. Lefty 1st African-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Center Mr. D, the silky soul singer, Middgett, the smoozer — hot and the sizzling stripping of Black Strippers. June 28, 8 & Harrison, SF. Call 648-3858.

• **Rita Rockett, Mark Abramson & Al Peck's Birthday:** Rockett's Sunday brunches for AIDS were SA at San Francisco's Fabulous Velours, with William & Gay. June 26 at 8 p.m. Trax, 1437 Haight, SF.

• **Athletes Against AIDS Golf Tournament:** Vida Black, Johnson, George Atkinson, Jerry Robinson, Steve Wong are among the sports greats who will join host Jack Timent to benefit Project Open Heart. \$250 per player. Country Club, Millbrae. Call Linda, 255-2520.

• **'Stop Operation Rescue Again!':** 848 Community word performances by Malia Movement Co., Stanley & Jack Dance Project with Miranda Mellis, Anah K., Nid Meghan Gannett. Proceeds benefit sending child to Operation Rescue's attempts to close abortion clinics at 8 p.m. \$5-10, no one turned away for lack of funds. Divisadero/McAllister, SF. Call 865-2002.

MUSIC

• **14th Annual Pride Concert:** A Lesbian/Gay Musician's anniversary of the Golden Gate Men's Chorus, the Lesbian in concert, with special guests Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, San Francisco Winds of Freedom Band, Silicon Valley VOICES, Bay Area Lesbian Choral Ensemble. June 28 Bear & Oakland; \$12 adv. (\$25 special gala tickets) on view with hosts Supervisors Tom Nolan and Robert Ayala & Mason, SF. Call 861-7067.

• **National Women's Rights Organizing Coalition:** Barb & perform in concert to benefit the militant and played a decisive role in keeping abortion clinics open. We need any kind of help: donations, time, organizing. \$5 cover, \$10 suggested; 21 & over with ID. Brave New, 387-3057 or (313) 832-4148.

• **Monica Grant & Teresa Chandler in Concert:** Kick off women. These two singer/songwriters/composers bring special guests pianist Tracy Stark, drummer Janet & vocalist Mahala Burne. June 26 at 8 p.m. \$7-10. La Pen, Call 849-2568.

• **Linda Tillery & Motown Band in Concert:** In celebration of Redwood Cultural Work presents a dance featuring the Motown Band. Interpreted for the hearing impaired. June 27 at 9 p.m. \$14 adv. (Mama Bear's Oakland, BA, tuck, Oakland. Call 833-1445.

CELEBRATION

• **National Center for Lesbian Rights 15th Anniversary:** National Center for Lesbian Rights invites all to rejoice in our victories as we fight for equality for lesbians, gay men and their families. The event includes 1992 Academy Award-winning documentary winning Latina playwright and writer Cherrie Moraga, musicians who are part of the New Song movement, a tution in the Green Room followed by Debra Chasnoff, interpreted for the hearing impaired, wheelchair access. Memorial and Performing Arts Center, 401 Van Ness.



(Left to right) Debra Chasnoff, Altazor and members of the National Lesbian Center's 15th anniversary celebration.



Our favorite from Tom Armiendo presents his annual...
 ...benefit for the AIDS Emergency...
 ...American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, Polk, SF. Call

...annual drag...
 ...cocktail wear and...
 ...Philippine Task Force...
 ...Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon.

...benefit for the...
 ...the Salt & Pepper Rompers...
 ...the zipper...
 ...17-10 donation, Eagle 12th St.

...benefit for Rita...
 ...Metropolitan Community Hospital...
 ...special guest comic Michael Greer.

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MONDAY 29

• **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** Mark Davis hosts aspiring gay & lesbian comics who sign up by phone by 7 p.m. Show 8 p.m. \$4. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. 861-7933.

• **'Postmodern Primitives'** (US, 1991): Charles Gatewood's video includes interviews with people (many from SF) who seek empowerment & transformation through ritual body art like tattoos & piercings. Gatewood answers questions after each screening. 7:15 & 9:15 p.m. \$3-5.50. Red Vic, 1727 Haight, SF. 668-3994.

• **'Perfection Lurks Within the Skin':** An exhibit of full-color monotypes & figure drawings by Max Levine White on view thru July 15. Church Street Gallery, Just Desserts, 248 Church/Market, SF. 558-9534.

• **LYRIC's Lesbian, Bisexual & Questioning Young Women's Group:** Drop-in rap group for women 23 years & younger. Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St./Valencia, SF. 252-6059.

• **Walden House:** Drug abuse treatment for individuals with HIV/AIDS. Learn to live clean & sober, manage health issues & live with AIDS. 241-5555 or 554-1450. Mon-Fri., 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

• **Bullins/Woodward Theatre Production Workshop:** Black & multicultural actors & musicians sought. Ed, (510) 843-7519.

• **Mark I. Chester's Folsom Gallery:** Proposals sought by gay men, lesbians & others for annual Folsom Street Fair art show. 544-1136.

• **Photography by Tim Collins:** Black & white images by the UPI award-winning photographer on view thru July 30. Elephant Walk, 18th St. & Castro, SF.

• **Mixed-Media Furniture & Installation:** Artwork by Todd Blair, Carolyn Hubinger, Amy Miller & Karl Swenson on view thru July 21. The Luggage Store, 509 Cultural Center Annex, 1007 Market, SF. 255-5971.

• **St. Anthony's Dining Room:** Volunteers needed to serve food 7 days of the week, 9:40 a.m.-12:40 p.m., during summer especially. Even if you can help only once a month. Barbara, 241-2693.

• **Gay-Bashing Subjects Sought:** Licensed psychotherapist wishes to interview gays & lesbians who've been victims of bashing/violent crimes for a book including personal stories. Confidentiality & sensitivity assured. Celia Brown, 776-9145 or 655 Street #513, SF, CA 94102.

• **SF Jacks:** Club for men who like to jack off with other men. "Very-Post Parade Pecker Pull & Pud Pageant." Call 979-0537.

TUESDAY 30

• **'Dirty Dreams of a Clean-Cut Kid':** Final performance of the last local engagement of Henry Mach's musical that covers everything you think about in the three minutes before you receive your HIV test results. 8 p.m. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. 861-7933.

• **5 Bay Area Painters:** Large-scale paintings by Kent Bond, Long Nguyen, Frances McCormack, Leslie Straw & Wendy Sussman on view thru Aug. 7. Tue-Sat. SF Arts Commission Gallery, 155 Grove/Van Ness, SF. 554-9682.

• **HIV+ Support Group:** Fun, relaxed, informative, personally supportive & spiritually oriented group meets Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. No set doctrine, not necessary to be an Episcopalian. All Saints' Parish, 1350 Waller, SF. Judith, 621-1862.

• **Amron Metaphysical Center:** "Tree Medicine: Tree Magic," presented by Ellen Evert Hopman 7 p.m. Free. 2254 Van Ness, SF. 775-0227.

• **Gay & Lesbian International Folk Dance Group:** Meets weekly in the Castro. Beginners welcome, no partners needed. Teaching 7:30-8 p.m., dancing 8-9:30 p.m. Jim, 585-9784.

• **HIV+ Potluck/Social:** HIV+ men, women, children & their families & friends are invited. Bring dish to share. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, 280 W. MacArthur Blvd., Rm. 1200A, Hospital Tower 12th floor, Oakland. (510) 596-6204.

WEDNESDAY 1

• **Faster Pussycat:** Pussycat Lounge, 6-9 p.m., \$2, hosted by Christina & Stephanie with DJ Downtown Donna. Faster Pussycat 9 p.m.-2 a.m. The Clubhouse, 3160 16th St./Albion, SF. Hotline, 561-9771.

• **New Eagle Creek Saloon:** R&B, jazz & popular tunes by The V.I.P. Band every Wednesday. Customers can sign up to perform with the band. 8-11 p.m. 1884 Market/Laguna, SF. 863-3323.

• **Photographs by Jessica Tanzer:** Black & white portraits on view thru July 5. Wed-Sun. Art Link Gallery, 4147 19th St./Collingwood, SF. 621-5131.

• **SF Hiking Club:** Monthly club meeting & social with slide show on Thailand. 7:30 p.m. Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood/18th St., SF.



• **Comics Margaret Cho & Mark Davis** (pictured above): SF's finest young comics team up for another run 4th of July weekend. July 1-5 at 8 p.m., also July 3 at 10 p.m. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. Call 861-7933.

• **Introductory HIV Town Meeting:** Project Inform provides an overview of HIV disease, immune monitoring tests & treatment strategy. All welcome. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Free. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka/18th St., SF. 558-8669.

• **Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE):** Lunch Bunch meeting for frail, homebound members. 10:30 a.m., call Ruth at 626-7000. Discovery men's discussion group on "When Did You Lose Your Cherry?" 2:30 p.m., Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero, SF.

• **Gay/Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics:** Meets Wednesdays at 8 p.m. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka/18th St., Rm. 104, SF. Pauline, 428-1048.

• **Gay & Lesbian Belly Dance Class:** Course for beginners every Wednesday, 8-9 p.m. \$10. 50 Oak/Van Ness, 4th fl. SF. 995-4962.

• **Theatre Classes:** Free theatre games/improvisation for people living with HIV/AIDS & their family & friends. Beginners/adv. welcome. 2-4 p.m. Rest Stop, 134 Church/Market, SF. 621-1701.

• **The Friendship Banquet:** Dinner in a bistro atmosphere is served weekly to provide fellowship & relaxation to HIV-positive people living in the Tenderloin or Western Addition. 4 p.m. St. Paulus Lutheran Church, Gough & Eddy, SF. Tom, 673-0456 or 673-8088.

THURSDAY 2

• **Living Sober's 'BlackOut' Dance:** The organization for gays & lesbians in alcohol recovery kicks off this year's Living Sober conference with a clean & sober dance fundraiser (last year attended by 5,000 people in recovery). No childcare provided. 10:15 p.m.-3 a.m. 85-15, 715 Harrison/3rd St., SF.

• **'Calypso: Teletronic Genius':** Charles Herman-Wurmfeld's solo comedy performance reinterprets the Greek myth of the island goddess Calypso. This unique performance explores a fascination with sitcoms, video, technology, sexuality & the progressively closer & more accelerated cultural sphere they revolve in as we approach the 21st century. July 2-3, 8 p.m. \$5-10. Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia, SF. 824-3890.

• **'Electra':** Thick Description presents a new adaptation of Sophocles' tragedy of revenge. Thru July 5, Thu-Sun., 8:30 p.m. \$8-12. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa/Alabama, SF. 621-0507.

• **'Tripology':** Three one-act plays by Jonal Woodward concerning homelessness, the crack plague & prejudice. Thru July 19, Thu-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m. Asian American Theatre Center, 403 Arguello/Clement, SF. 751-2600.

• **Grupo Gay da Bahia:** Brazil Action Solidarity Exchange presents Luiz Mott, leader of Brazil's oldest gay organization, on the gay movement & the fight for human rights in Brazil, where more than 1,200 people have been murdered for being gay. 7:30 p.m. \$5-10. La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 849-2568.

• **Spectrum, Center for Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Concerns:** Support groups for lesbian, gay & bisexual youth - Rainbow's End for youth ages 21 & under, first-time visitor drop-in time 5:30-6 p.m., group time 6-7:30 p.m.; New Horizons for young people ages 22-29, first-time visitor drop-in time 7:45-8 p.m., group time 8-9:30 p.m. 457-1115.

• **The Healing Circle:** What began as an HIV support group has evolved into a space of healing & growth for all men & women. Come join the experience. Thursdays at 8 p.m. 50 Brady/Market, SF. David, 241-9480.

• **Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD):** SF Bay Area: Open discussion of recent defamations & GLAAD reactions 7 p.m. 514 Castro #B, SF. 861-4588.

This Week's Dinner Specials

Chicken Cordon Bleu with mushrooms, goat cheese & sun-dried tomatoes, served with herbed mashed potatoes and grilled vegetables 9.75

Peppered Ahi Tuna grilled rare with ginger-sesame marinade, mediterranean couscous and fried beet chips 10.95

Grilled Halibut with chef's potatoes, creamy white wine sauce with shrimp and baby clams ... 9.75

Grilled Chicken Breast with rosemary-garlic marinade and linguini with basil & oven-dried tomato pesto 8.95

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PERMANENT MATE TO RELOCATE. Italian guy, 38 y.o., 5'6", 145 lbs, hairy, seeks super masculine GWM, 35 - 45 to relocate to Chicago. Partial to blue eyes, U/C. Into massage, J/O, Fr. A/P. No drugs or Gr. A/P. Will be in town week of 6-15. Sincere guys, let's talk. EXT 3081

GBM, 5'6", 170 LBS. Gr/P seeks Gr/A GBM, HIV+ or - for long interlude. EXT 3080

YOUNG LATIN MALE, 140 lbs, 5'5", looking for man any race for Gr/A attack on this man. Dimensions important! Friendship & more possible. EXT 3079

EAST BAY ONLY Gd/kng, Filipino, 22 y.o., 5'10", 180 lbs. Seeks friends GWM / GLM under 35 to share life & activities. Must have sense of humor. EXT 3078

GWM, 38 Y.O., 5'9", 148 LBS. Seeks guys up to 45 into W/S for one on one or more. Experienced or 1st timers O.K. Let's meet. EXT 3077

HNDSM, INTEL, GWM, 37 Y.O., 190 LBS, good physique, above average, lots of libido, healthy HIV+, seeks GWM, 30 - 40 of similar physical, mental calibre. Enjoy sports & U/C a+. EXT 3076

GWM, 31, LKNG FOR FUN & FRIENDS Asian/Latin buddies 18 - 35 for some fun & games. EXT 3075

RENO AREA..STABLE, 55 Y.O., Fr/A, Gr/P, GWM seeks 18 - 30 y.o.men. Straight / B+ / tourists welcome. EXT 3074

GWM, BRAZILIAN, CAL RESIDENT since '88, sks smooch r/ship with HIV+, intelligent, romantic, sincere & healthy man of any race under 38. I'm 28 y.o., 5'7", 142 lbs, br/bl, HIV-, non smoker & no drugs. EXT 3073

UNIQUE (BLACK) INDIVIDUAL.. "T/S" seeks exceptional soulmate. Me: honest, funloving, well proportioned, serious, prof career person. You: tall (6'+) sincere, settled, self-assured. 35 yrs or over. Race unimportant. EXT 3072

BI-WM, 30 Y.O., 5'9", 140 LBS, seeks hot & beautiful transsexual for fun, friendship & more. Please call today! EXT 3071

FROM A MOTHER that really loves her son & wants the best for him. He's 25 y.o., single, goodlooking, but most important a wonderful man. Caring, loving, doesn't drink or smoke. He's looking for similar. EXT 3070

EAST BAY JOCK, SUPER CUTE, warm, sensitive, intel, self assured, 27, Spanish descent, sks super cute guy who's athletic, smart, caring, self-confident. Likes hairy legs, chest & moustach or smooth, tan in shape as well. EXT 3068

EAST BAY MUSCLE BLOND, 30, sks black boyfriend for nature walks, romance & of course much more. EXT 3068

HANDSOME, 30ish, LATIN MALE seeks black male to appreciate my clean shaven body. Experienced only. EXT 3067

MELLOW, BIG BLACK BULL, 5'11", 170 lbs, 39, bearded, sks 18 - 22 guy for safe fun. Yr big 2. EXT 3066

WANTED FOR FR! I'm a Daddy with solid build & big physique. You're young, small & in need of a nice daddy. Notak necessary. EXT 3065

STRGHT LKNG GWM, 29, 6'4", 195 LBS br/bl, stach, HIV-, sincere loving teddy bear. sks serious friends/lover, 20 - 35, Lat/whit male only. Russian nver area. If you're serious give me a chance. EXT 3064

GBM, 5'11", 200 LBS, 33 Y.O., SEEKS GAM, GLM, GBM. Prefers dominating man for fun. Let's correspond. EXT 3063

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TIME-SHARE I'm an attractive artist (great kisser) looking for some one over 30 who's really smart, sexy, fit & friendly (I am) to share time with here & possibly in Australia during the winter or wherever else we both want to be. I'm not interested in being anyone's daddy, so if you're grown up, beautiful in body & soul, compassionate & clever then let's get together. EXT 3062

STUD EX-USMC, 29 Y.O., seeks tough young guys 4 intense meetings. No Yups or poser punks. 1st timers O.K. EXT 3061

30 Y.O., GWM goodlooking, seeks leather / Levi dominant, goodlookers with 8 or more. Party animal, HIV+ alright. EXT 3060

GBM, HANDSOME, 39 Y.O., HIV- seeks healthy, affectionate, Arab, Latin or Persian for fun, friendship & poss r/ship. EXT 3059

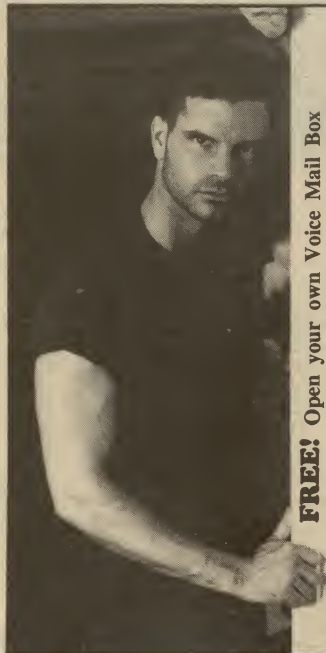
CUTE, SINCERE & INTELLIGENT Asian boy wants a Daddy (40+) to please & love for a discreet relationship. Those masculine & muscular daddies who discipline just drive me crazy. EXT 3058

HEALTHY HIV+ GWM, 39 YRS, 193 LBS, long brn hair, stache, looking for other healthy HIV+ man for long term relationship. I live in East Bay. EXT 3056

VERS, 25 Y.O., GWM, 5'8", 140 LBS, long brn hair, smooth gym toned body, wants slim, HIV+, in shape guys for great times & possibly more. EXT 3055

GBM, HANDSOME, 46 Y.O., 5'11", 190 LBS, HIV+, seeks GWM, into following orders, 25-50 y.o.. Trim body, red hair, nice feet, hairy a+, as are stache and beards. EXT 3050

BAD BOY, 55 Y.O. Needs men over 60 to keep me in line. I always do as I am told. EXT 3054



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SAN JOSE AREA 68 Y.O., GWM, SEEKS Asian, Wht, Latin boys 18 + for good times. EXT 3053

GWM, 36 Y.O., SEEKS GWM, 30 - 45 for possible relationship. Call for more in depth conversation. EXT 3051

ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN STALLION 28 y.o., 6', 190 lbs, well - built hairy, healthy, seeks gwm, 20 - 35, slim, smooth (A+), for fun & friendship & more. EXT 3050

A DISPLACED COUNTRY BOY re-seeking the simple life. GWM, young looking 38 y.o., 5'1", 220 lbs, HIV-, liberal, caring, giving, trusting, been through short-term relationships. Wants a financially & emotionally stable, man any race (esp. Asian/Arabian/Latin ancestry), who enjoys the concept of American folk-style living. EXT 3049

ANY ASIAN ALTERNATIVES? GWM, 28y.o., 6'3", 185 lbs, very handsome sks skinny Asian boys interested in Alternative music, art, film. Looking for beauty in body & mind. I am kind, honest & wonderful. Smoking etc. O.K. Friendship first & then...? EXT 3048

ADORABLE AT 32, seeking another fun & dominant older man. I'm Latin, HIV- and in good shape. EXT 3047

VIRILE, TALENTED, VERY GDLKNG, intelligent, GWM, 26 y.o., 6'2", 175 lbs, HIV-, Professional / student. Sks 6'2" ish, fit, 25 - 35, handsome, smart, outdoorsy, HIV- any race. Safe fun & possible relationship. EXT 3046

GAM (FILIPINO/AMER) 29 y.o., 5'8", 155 lbs, lived in Bay area 22 yrs. Mature swimmers build, outgoing, healthy, well mannered, clean looking for friendship & fun with GWM/ital 25 - 35 well groomed, open minded, mature, sincere, masculine, mentally positive. know you're out there. EXT 3045

GAY LAKOTA SIOUX MALE age 35, wants GWM or GAM 21 to 25 yrs old for relationship. EXT 3044

WILD & HANDSOME, Reddish brn hair, dk blue eyes, 5'10", 140 lbs, 37, U/C. You: 20 - 30's slender, gdlking, smooth, HIV-, versatile, Fr/A, & fun. EXT 3043

CHINADOLL T/S 5'4", 120 lbs, seeks strong masculine man for cuddling, fun & friendship. Call today! EXT 3042

MEET AN ASIAN "ARIES" LATELY? GAM, 44, 5'10", 150 lbs, wants to meet younger brother, friend, lover any race. Int: sci-fi, eating out, weekend outings, traveling. I'm easy to please well balanced, caring & sensitive. If you are willing to be loved & treasured for who you are & comfortable being the object of my devotion. EXT 3041

AMERICAN FILIPINO 35 y.o., GM needs mid - morning companion to hike Lands End I live by Suto Park - Must be K-9 lover!! Let's have lunch at my house!! EXT 3040

GAM (FIL) 30 Y.O., 5'7", 150 LBS, ATTR. open-minded, swimmer build, mature, healthy, outgoing sks attr. GWM/ITUN 25 - 35 masc, mature, non-promisc, avg to well built, in-shape. Let's correspond & possibly connect 1 to 1 for rendez-vous. EXT 3039

HERE'S MY FANTASY. You call me up to come over and I find you sleeping. Call me and let's discuss some this dilemma. EXT 3038

ARE YOU AN ASIAN COMMANDER? who wants a GWM recruit who's 45? I want B/D, strict military training. EXT 3037

GDLKNG ARAB MAN, hairy body seeks natural Aggressive man to train him. Blacks are welcome. EXT 3036

L.A. SEEKS FRIENDS FOR S.F. VISITS: for symphony, photography, operas, Gracia Cathedral. Handsome, masculine, GBM, 37y.o. EXT 3035

EAST BAY MATURE GWM in good shape 5'9", 160 lbs, 7+, HIV- sks yng guy for early AM/Late afternoon. Students, jocks, first timers, military. No smoke, drugs. EXT 3034

GBM, 5'11", 180 LBS, B/B, 32 Y.O., Gr/A seeks Gr/P, non smoker, 5'8" or smaller 20 - 40, HIV+, nice man. EXT 3033

WILD & HANDSOME, Reddish brn hair, dk blue eyes, 5'10", 140 lbs, 37, U/C. You: 20 - 30's slender, gdlking, smooth, HIV-, versatile, Fr/A, & fun. EXT 3043

BUILT & educated seeks GWM, 35 - 43 y.o., for fun & friend. EXT 3032

INTERESTED IN C - U/C? Under 40? Me: 58 y.o. Unusual Prince Albert. Let's talk! EXT 3031

GWM, 34 Y.O., SEEKS FUN, HUSKY, F/F aggressive any age or race. Call for guaranteed fun and pleasurable experience. EXT 3030

MAN WANTED: 31y.o., dk blond, 5'11", 155 lbs, grn eyes, handsome, upscale, hip, looking to meet guys of same caliber to 32 y.o., I'm wild, good physique & always ready. EXT 3029

SEEKING SWEET LITTLE BROTHER with big physique, U/C for J/O. Possible relationship by GWM, 40, 5'10", hairy, U/C, balding. EXT 3027

TALL MALE, 196 LBS, CUT, looking for guy for caring relationship. Like to be held by strong male who is gentle & easy, smart & discreet. Goodlooking, good catch & new to scene. EXT 3026

COMMANDER SEEKS TRAINEE, for perm r/ship, discipline & more. Me: 41, 6'4", 240 lbs, bear type. You: 20-40, smooth, in-shape! EXT 3025

27 Y.O., GWM IN SONOMA Co. seeks masculine, muscular aggressive man under 30 only. Military a plus. EXT 3024

GAM, 31, 5'8", 148 LBS, Professional, shy, honest, humorous, energetic, non-smoker - sks GWM or GAM (preferred) 25 - 35 for friendship or more. EXT 3023

PROF. MODEL SKS EASTBAY FRIENDSGAM, 21, 160 lbs, 5'10", blk/br, sks fun & friendship with GWM, cleanshaven, 20 - 30. EXT 3022

HEALTHY HIV+ WM, 38 y.o., 5', 170 lbs, brn/grn, beard, hairy, pierced chest, tats, masculine, biker, former USMC, seeks HIV+, hairy, bearded WM or LM of equal caliber into: Good old fun and good old mild S&M games. EXT 3018

GOODLOOKING GAM, 28 Y.O., 5'5", 110 lbs, looking for friends and ready for relationship. You should be under 38 y.o.. All races are welcome. EXT 3017

LOOKING FOR GAM, GBM, GWM, 18 through 21 yrs only. EXT 3016

TOPGUN NEEDS H+Fn, 5'11", 155 lbs, br/hz, sks monog rel +sp, 31, Cln & Sbr, Help! New to Bay, Masc, cute HIV-. EXT 3015

WILD 50's FF/B SKS AMER-INDIAN FF/ T any age, altered consciousness your guy have been there; need return. EXT 3013

ACCEPTING BOY WANTED 18-25. Generous & strict daddy will B/D & keep you smooth shaved. Full time total control. EXT 3012

LOVING SUBSVR SEEKS strong husband. Me 45, in good shape, HIV- You: HIV-. Controlling who wants nice man. EXT 3011

WOULD LIKE TO MEET STUD 8 or more. Never seen one or had one. WM x WM. Let's meet. EXT 3010

DADDY, 65 Y.O., 5'11", 175 LBS seeks willing man any age, good build, S.J. area. Latin or Dom. EXT 3001

GWM, 5'9", 145 LBS, BR/ BL, MOUSTACH 40 y.o., sks cute guy 18 - 30 for romantic evenings. I am warm & cuddly. EXT 3000

BM, 28, 6', SEEKS WM, 6'+ 30 - 50 y.o. for substantially meaningful relationship and intense pleasure. Ext. 3486

ARE YOU 40 Y.O. & OLDER, GWM, HIV-, tall, musc, masc, who is exclusively Fr/P, who likes slow grilling??? Then this 29 y.o. Arab is for you!! Ext. 3460

STOCKY BALD BEAR Handsome bearded GM with big sensitive chest seeks playmate for mutual chest & body fun. You: 30's - 40's, stocky, hairy, fun to be with. EXT 3261

WANTED: MASCULINE BIGGER GUYS in good shape, 30 - 50 who can wield a whip but respect limits. Me: 6'3", 23 y.o., br/bl, 190 lbs, country handsome. Like most B/D & S/M scenes. No relationship, just fun. EXT 3255

GOODLOOKING MUSCOVITE, 44, 180, Fr/Gr, blue eyes, hairy, nice body, stable, likes music, sports, travelling seeks friends 35-55 with similar qualities. EXT 3254

GWM, 40, 5'8", 130 LBS, ITALIAN beard, stach, hairy, Gr/P small, tight physique, Fr/A, loves G/S. Seeks commanding Blk male, 40+ for meeting on regular basis. Must like to have fun. EXT 3253

HNDSM, MUSC, GENEROUS GIFTS yng/GWM seeks musclemen under 40 not bading with interest in fun for rough play. Dudes with huge muscular physiques only. EXT 3247

OLD FASHION TYPE GUY I'm 5'8", 176 lbs, 32, ex-model, ex-farmboy, I bodybuild, am goodlooking, very straight acting, not into one night stands. You want me, you date me. Seeks gdlking jock, hard body that enjoys life & knows how to treat a man! EXT 3246

HAIRY ARAB WITH GREY EYES goodlooking seeks blacks who are interested in a Gr/P man. EXT 3245

HONEST, MASC, GWM/GLM 30-50, HIV neg, who wants a monogamous relationship with a GBM who is stable, fat, balding in 40's prof. No sub abusers, 1-nighters, bar flies, con men. EXT 3240

EAST BAY, BWM, 40, 6'8", 130 LBS Fr/A, Gr/P seeks BM, 50 + for regular meetings. You: More than I'll know what to do with. EXT 3234

GWM, GOOD PHYSIQUE WANTS young, butch, in shape, Macho Type. Me: athletic, handsome, blond & ready. EXT 3231

TALL DARK & HANDSOME. I'm 37, blond, handsome, HIV neg, musc & tan body. Let's date. East Bay. EXT 3230

BULGING BICEPS, MASSIVE CHESTS & super bushy armpits make me feel so good. This alternate, cute GWM, 28 y.o., with wild body wants to hear from masculine men who know what to say to me and like to have fun. South bay. EXT 3226

24 Y.O. WANTS TO SERVE BUTCH DUDE in military or straight. Couples and groups a plus. IT bay. EXT 3214

LOOKING FOR YOUNG CLEAN CUT DUDE into riding. I'm 40 yrs blond Active. You: stacked with a great saddle and likes to have fun. EXT 3211

CLEAN CUT, VERY ATTRACTIVE & SWIMMERS BUILD. Boyish 28, GBM, 5'11", 160 lbs, educated, excellent shape & HIV neg, into outdoors, lang & travel. Versatile & fun. Seeks GWM/GLM sensitive jock or prep. 16-28 boyish yet masculine. EXT 3201

32 Y.O. GWM 5'9", 160 lbs, straw blond, attract, in shape, HIV Neg., Inter'd in His Asian 25-35, in shape & mature. Seek friendship & relationship as well as fun. EXT 3185

28 Y.O. GWM 5'8", 155 lbs, interested in meeting young Asian or Hsp. men who are in good shape and enjoy life. EXT 3146

GBM, HANDSOME, 46 Y.O., 5'11", 190 lbs, HIV+, seeks GWM, into pleasing, 25-50 y.o.. Trim body, red hair, nice feet, hairy a+, as are stache and beards. Don't wait - Call now!! Ext. 3080

45 Y.O., TOILET PIG, in Monterey Co. looking for Dominating hard big biker into heavy raunch to train me in respect EXT 11110

LOOKING FOR YOUNG MEN in the Sacramento Area. Call for a talk & get together. EXT 11154

20 Y.O., 5'8", 124 LBS, into Latin/Spanish, Mexican, Italian men 21 - 30 for friend an r/ship. Prof. Mr. Lawyer, Model ... someone attractive & successful for my first! EXT 11227

GBM, 32 Y.O., 6', BR/BR, 190 LBS, hairy body, mostly passive, looking for someone to share walks on beach, quiet evenings at home. EXT 11245

I'M 44, 5'8", 155 BS, BR/GR GWM moderately hairy, HIV-, gentle & caring, have good job, own studio apt in city, like classical, large CD collection, enjoy video's, let's talk. EXT 11254

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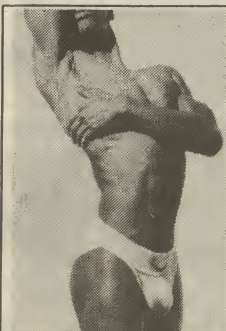


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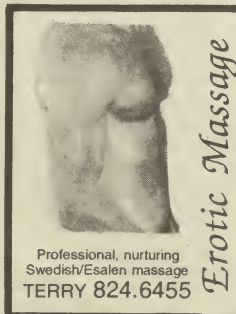
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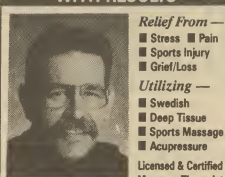
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Inspiring Professional
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\$55 - 1 1/4 Hrs.
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Two guys 24 & 38 give
4 HANDS MESSAGE
in the nude. \$50 in, \$70 out.
Total relaxation. 822-3534 E30

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By Young Bodybuilder
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A Great Massage...
For Men 40+
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Sensual Massage 266-9288

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Fullbody msg., etc. Berkeley
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Oil & sensual rubs = ecstasy
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Sensual Full Body Massage
\$30-\$50 in • \$40-\$60 out
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Shiatsu and Swedish
Combination massage
75 mins. \$50.00
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Nurturing sensual healing
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by athletic man with
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Extravagant Intimacy

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\$125

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- SENSITIVE TOUCH
- FRIENDLY SMILE

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Massage, \$45. Come and relax.
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Let my coffee toned hands
relieve your stress today.
Call West 474-2057 \$45/\$65 E26

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Swedish • Shiatsu
Deep Tissue • Erotic
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Blond Canadian
Even if you're a little shy
One-of-a-kind-Man
When you need a
friendly hand, a warm
sensual experience
& a fun man,
6', 195, nude, erotic
Swedish hot lotion rub.
Experienced
Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr

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JOHN POLOZZO, Jr., C.M.T. offers a 90 min. full body massage for late nite
relief of stress, lower back pain, chronic body aches and sleepless nites. Mon-Thurs
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I'll call you back to confirm time & location.) \$45/IN \$75/OUT. **Weekends I'm**
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-Joseph Kramer, Director, Body Electric School

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By appointment

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Certified Massage Therapist
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Relaxing • **864-5447** • Satisfying
Castro location \$40 - 1 1/2 hours - Discount PWA's

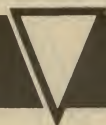
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A warm, clean environment awaits you —
designed with care to help you relax.
A wonderful way to reduce stress, pain, &
fatigue. Quiet Castro neighborhood.
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Ram Photo 553-8172

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Professional full body
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relaxing environment
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Therapeutic Massage given by
a Certified Masseuse with a
background in Psychology,
Sociology, Human Sexuality and
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Handsome Black Masseuse.
The Best Swedish/Esalen Body-
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Near Castro. EZ Parking.

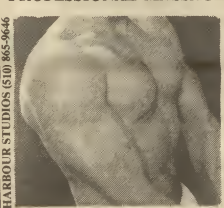
THOMAS

CERTIFIED MASSAGE TECHNICIAN
241-0284

WHERE DID THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MASSEURS ON THIS PAGE GET THEIR TRAINING?

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Massage Certification Training:
July 11-26
Body Electric School
Call 510-653-1594
for information.

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HARBOR STUDIOS (510) 865-9646

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To find a great masseur
Look no further, you've found one
in me. I'm an ext. handsome,
5'10", 200lb. bodybuilder who will
give you a superior, full body
massage. Call Robert when you
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Deep relaxing sensitive warm
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Pgr. 985-1526
\$25/hr.—\$35/1½ hr.



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Want someone professional
and friendly? I give a full body
massage in the nude. I am a
Norwegian man, 32, Lt.
Bodybuilder and swimmer.
Handsome and clean cut.
Certified
\$40 in/\$60 out • 24 hrs.
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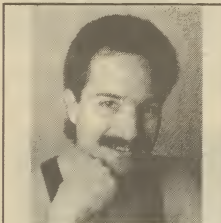
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V-handsome Scandinavian man.
weight lifter, friendly, 8" cut,
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Especially like small
Asian & Latin men.
Erotic nude massage.

45 in 55 out 931-3263 Ron 24 hrs

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6'1", 190, Sexy, Masc., Gorgeous,
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A full-body Swedish massage
will bring you bliss.
Warm table, warm oil.

Bob 824-6713

certified, experienced

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Hot oil massage. Castro.
75 min. \$50 in/\$65 out
Rich 431-0959 E26
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Certified \$50/\$60 285-9019 E38

Nude mas by wl. built man
41 dwtwn 398-2441 24 hr Mark E30

Nude full body massage
\$25/in \$40/out 776-4175 E26

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Pretty man hung 9",
6', 195, B/Builder,
blond, blue, nice big
hands, hot lotion rub.
GREAT FOR SHY TYPES
ADAM 474-8027
\$50in/\$65out

All men 50+, Best \$35 massage.
Great! Nick 552-5059 E29

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Masseur for relaxation
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\$40/50 Bill 510-268-1280 E26

Massage w/o attitude
muscular, built med
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By Certified Massage Therapist
Friendly, professional and at Castro/24th
with parking. My training is in Esalen, Reiki
and acupressure. Massage sessions
designed to meet your needs and preferences.
\$45/75 min. Call soon.
Danny Dokken 641-4854

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CMT
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\$45

Whether your goal is stress manage-
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pains, or simply to feel great, I can
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and decided
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true.

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Near Castro
Easy Parking



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Gives Hot Sensual Rub. Cert. 5'11"
170lbs, 32" waist, 42" chest.
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Experience Vitality

Powerful/Soothing
Personalized Touch
Flexible Rates
— Certified —
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Muscular, Hunky, Friendly
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DAYTIME MASSAGE
Sensuous and satisfying
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Rick Michaels • 252-9441
CMT • In Only • Sliding Scale E28

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Gentle to deep tissue by
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San Bruno \$40
Warm hairy talented
Lv msg 873-8029 David E29

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Kory, 773-9130
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LUIZ

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Incredible
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Relaxing • Soothing • Nurturing
• Hot Oil Massage •
Warm Room • Comfortable Table
Garry 431-3297 \$45/75 min.



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NUDE SWEDISH
TENDER AND EROTIC
MASSAGE**
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\$35 IN/\$50 OUT.

\$30 Erotic Nude Massage
★ Bill 441-1054. Hot! ★ E32

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Sensitive, luxurious, therapeutic massage
• Swedish/Esalen, Acupressure
Deep Muscle Work
• Castro Location
• \$40/1½ hrs.

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Holistic and
Complete
Heated Table
Lotion (not messy oil)
Near Japan Town, S.F.
Only \$30/hour
\$25 First Time
Outcalls available
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Marc, 27, top skills/shape
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Full-body/\$45/252-8378 E26

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Relax with a very smooth
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Healing Touch

Relax, rejuvenate with Swedish,
Shiatsu or Reiki. Strong hands.
Peaceful Noe location.
Ed CMT, 6 yrs. 647-4388
\$30/hr. \$25 1st time



Experience ecstasy with a high quality
massage combining Shiatsu,
Acupressure, Swedish, Deep Tissue, and
Sports massage techniques by a skillful
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China trained. Japantown location.
Available for sessions 7 days a week,
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EROTIC MASSG

C.M.T. Call: 775-4771 24 hrs. E28

Chad 552-3740
NUDE EROTIC
25 yr Hansm Friendly Defined E28

BOTTOMS UP
Back, butt & butt hole massage
Chris (415) 864-0450 E27

People and Personals

MASSAGE



Dave
387-9451
Photo: Ram Studios 553-8172

25YR LATIN
HOT
Honest great looks
648-1919



WARM HANDS, WARM HEART

"A masseur in the finest tradition of ecstatic bodywork."
-Joseph Kramer, Director, Body Electric School
Swedish/Esalen, Acupressure, Rebirthing, HIV+ encouraged. Castro location.
By appt. \$60 for 2 healing hours
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MASCULINE TOUCH
Firm and subtle touch, tension and stress release by a handsome, muscular Latin man.
Fernando 552-8947 E26

Muscles Melted Magically
Hot Oil Massage
For men who work out
Riley 431-0262
\$40/60 min. \$50/90 min.



ERIC MASAO
673-3662 In Only



255-4601
Full Body Massage \$70 In, \$80 Out.
Credit card accepted

TOP NOTCH YOU'RE SEEKING NEAR PERFECTION?

Here I am. Here for you. 6ft., 200lbs., 45" hairy chest, 33" waist, weightlifter, handsome man, hung big. I offer the perfect relaxing erotic massage for you.
Hans \$50 in/65 out
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— No drugs/No alcohol —

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Releasing tension and stress with a soothing massage by a sensitive therapist. Restoring body/mind harmony. Chris
821-4818 Cert.

Church St.—In/Out 773-9130
FULL BODY E26

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1 1/2 Hours of Nurturing Touch
SLIDING SCALE FEE
Johnny 567-2952
(Pacific Hts.)

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American Heart Association

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DAVID 6'3 195 Lbs.



HOT-HAIRY-HUNG
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Photo: RAM [415] 553-8172

TRUE THICK UNCUT NINE

Italian/Native American
5'10" 160# brown/brown
naturally smooth, dark & sexy.
Available and discreet
\$100 905-4563 E26

Horse-hung German blond
6'4" mushroom head 821-3425
E26

ALL AMERICAN BUFFED 23 YO

6'3" 220#s 9" CUT
MUSCULAR CLEAN CUT
\$100/120 267-1585 E26

Jackclad BB 5'10" 175 br blu
32 yo. 43c 32w 16a friendly
focused. Bert massages your
chest & all the rest. Chest
focused men only. Join me
in masculine sensuality.
Hotels, out only. \$60 626-5005
CHESTMASTER E26

207-5403 TONSIL THROB

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HOT SWEATY JOCK
Hrly/overnite 679-3167 Pgr E26
Where Hot Ass Gets Fisted, Arm
or Toyed. Nob Hill. Nick 885-1471
"BUTT WORKS" E26

Blond blue tight body
22 yo. boy—new in town—at
YOUR SERVICE

Tattoos piercings—Chris
\$100—in/out—431-9028 E26

Great arm pits under X-hairy
tattooed arms 6'2" 185
hung long/thick 431-5974 E26

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I'm here to please you! Very cute,
green eyes, tan, tall, bottom,
versatile, young, hung and
safe! Calvin 24 hrs. 931-CURE
E26



ALL AMERICAN
Photo: RAM [415] 553-8172

MARK 207-9416

X-LONG X-THICK TOP
HANDSOME WELL BUILT
Clean Cut
EASY GOING TOPMAN
Vince 708-0377 \$75

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AVAILABLE HOURLY
+ OVERTIME TO
FULFILL YOUR
FANTASIES ON THE
WILDSIDE 24 HRS.
WILL TRAVEL
PAGER 708-8612 E26

FANTASY

Attractive blk man to
satisfy your bizarre
desires. Mikael — 474-2057 E26

Hot hard punk smooth lean
hung top Dan 241-1510. Do it. E26

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Hot sensual French/
Spanish man-boy, toned
body, great butt, versatile
lover, very handsome
friendly 24 hrs. Call
Tony pgr 597-3613 E26

BIGGEST BODYBUILDER

25, 6', 255lbs,
53c, 19a, 30th
HUNG
ALL SCENES
Available 24 Hours
(408) 427-4543
In Bay Area

HOT HAWAIIAN HUNK
28 smooth & muscular
for J/O, massage or
strip tease. Shawn 626-7410 E26

Experienced Italian stud
9x6 cut, very handsome 24 hr.
HOT BLOODED ACTION!
FEEL A FEVER FLASH!
\$100 in/out 864-3626; page
708-2459 do it with Tony!! E26

K.D. LANG

androgyny. Young bi woman
welcomes all genders and
orientations. Alex 431-1426 E26

Cute longhair rocker dude
kicks back 4 buttworship
& tool service. 23, 5'10", 155 lbs.
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24 hrs. \$80 Billy will top U. E27

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in San Francisco
until 6/30/92
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DOCTOR

Says Open Wide 563-5176
245, 6 ft, 20" a, 55" ch E26
Watersports with—863-6536—
A touch of Class. Raunch.
Dildos. "Fingers". Arms—Feet.
E26

This is Lex (see photo "Top
for Hire") and I'll be on
holiday from 6/30 to 8/5.
Thank you to all who've
helped make this possible
and I look forward to
cumming back for more! E26

GOURMET'S DELIGHT

Over 10" of tender beef, 6'2",
hot, 200 lbs., Handsome Black
Reasonable
775-6544 (out) Bon Appetite

VIRILE SEXY ITALIAN

Very defined swimmer's body,
nice chest and abs, long waisted and
well-proportioned strong legs;
5'11", 165 lbs., healthy, hot and hand-
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Playful handsome laid back
model, GWM BB, tall, 35, fun
shows off cut 9" x 7" Xthick
likes J/O, porno & uncuts.
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Blond dancer, queer kinky
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E26

Hung 9/musc (916) 863-3003
..SACRAMENTO E27

Cute sexy 19 yr. long hair
blond rocker stud 8", slim
smooth Tommy 626-3031 \$70
E26

Quality and Quantity HARD BODY

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6 ft. slim, smooth, sexy
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stocked playroom safe sane
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RANDY 864-3133
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Xtra handsome. Hung. Smooth.
Discreet. \$80 Out only.
Call back. Raja
Beeper # 749-8175 E26

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11"x8" 30 YO

5'11" 185#

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Man for hire—Steven 6'2" 185
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Tanned yng hot sum bod 8'
thick top or bottom discreet
best hummer in town
day or night 24 hrs. Toys &
poppers out (510) 530-6666 or
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**HUNGRY DUDE LIKES
TO BE FORCE FED**
Attractive • 26 yrs • Hung
Afternoon & repeat discounts
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Bpr# 469-3054
Incredible!



S/M SENSUALITY
—long, & slow—my specialty.
6'2", 175, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leathersex:
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
Lord 431-0959 E28

FF, TT, B/D, TOYS
Gloves, kinky, Andy, husky, 5'9",
175, must. 861-2668 sling
safe. \$60 E26

Marin-SF Hot BB Bottom, 10 am-
10 pm., \$60/80. Ted 459-4217
E27

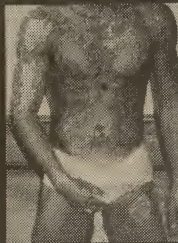
If you want to please a
tall hairy chested stud with
a hot meaty 9" tool ...
JOHN 979-6898
NEVER IN A HURRY E26

HOT BLONDE



23, 5'10", 160
Eric
Bpr: (415) 998-9898

9"x6"



SHANE
Hot Blonde Boy
Bpr# (415) 719-0365
\$100



PORN DADDY
STAR OF GIANTS, ROOM
SERVICE, PLAYGIRL ...
ZACK 771-2073

Incredibly
HOT
Incredibly
HUNG
PHOTO STIVE SAUGE



Derek Moore
26, 5'9", 150#
br/br, 8½ x 6
Tight smooth
gymnast build
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BRIAN - 621-4901 TOP
HANDSOME BLACK B.B. 6'ft. 205lbs.

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Very Fine Latino
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— anytime —



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Ex-GI Bodybuilder Available
for STUD ACTION
Sam 673-8531

Superhung thick top. Friendly.
Delivers excellent.
Choking and poking. 24 hrs.

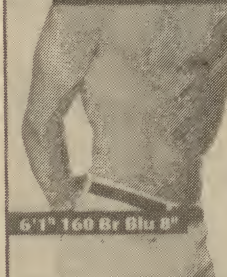
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Steve 804-4489—Boy Top...
BISEXUAL YOUTH
24, 5'10", 130, 7" c, Br/Bl
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All American youth trim,
6'1" w/ fat 9 inch. Good
looking, masculine, natural
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JASON
175 lbs., 5'8½", 46"C, 29"W
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Experienced & 100% Safe
B/D, S&M, Body Worship
& Massage
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JASON
175 lbs., 5'8½", 46"C, 29"W
864-2070 • \$115

OUT SERVICE TIM
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College boy gone bad
22 Y.O. BLOND BLUE
Toned body — Jason
\$100 — in/out 431-9028 E26

Handsome Asian for hire
✓ Hot model — escort — masseur
✓ XXX-Video, Nude, Wrestling
WINSTON 807-5886 BPR E28

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MASC. VERSATILE
Very Handsome Firm Bod
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PGR. 739-3659 E26

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24 shy Kyle 775-7118 E26

6'4" tan, blond, 21 y.o. hung
w/ swimmers build, into all
fetishes and fantasies
Call Scott 281-0271 E26

A * Perfect * Bod. Yng, X-Hot
8½, tight! Pg: 978-8394. E28

* A True 8½x6 Uncut Stud! *
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►► **FLAGPOLE** ◄◄
6'2" 167# 29 yo Hot Action
Get Roy \$100 out 469-9894 E20

HOT HOT HOT HOT
SEXY ATHLETIC BOY
24 yrs. 9" 24 hours
Adam 255-0614

TOP FOR HIRE



LEX 207-5231

20 yr old 5'8" 145 lbs. athletic
guy does what U want
\$70 Call Jim 456-1799 E28

Gdlk, 6'1", 165 lbs.
ASIAN TOP
\$60 Jim 267-1817 E28

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Friendly 6'3" hairy blond
pretty dick big nuts nice buns
24 hrs. Chale 431-8209 E30

BLOND DAD
Hairy Tall Full Sack
Chad 861-7014 E26

ALL AMERICAN
Hot body, hot muscles,
hot time. Into all scenes.
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Tender to raunchy, your
pleasure is my command,
Sir. Blond/blu, very oral,
sensual, bottom. \$100 in/out.

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9"x6" Rock Hard Video Star
AUSTIN BLACK
6'1", 170# Creole Top
HONCHO MAN 8/92 ISSUE
Summer Discounts 6/10-7/2
Will travel 708-6300 E26

Stud kicks back 985-5225 E29

24 masc. hung 10 24 hrs 931-5579 E4

Gorgeous, 24 yr, dom, hung
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Call Kris 995-4667—758+1 E26

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Hot 19 yr old Li 553-8535 E26

Bikerstud horsehung top.
UNCUT MAN!
Horny undersexed masculine
Anthony \$80 #415-207-5155 E26

Ital stallion br/br 5'8"
HUNG LIKE A HORSE
Fat tool—stud looks/built
Jonny #560-9596 in SF \$80. E26

9x6

Call: 775-4771 24 hrs. E26

Tall hairy chested stud
hndsm oversexed big
beautiful tool-ready for a
long-term xxxclusive
arrangement. David 863-4847
E28

Bi Tall Latin top
Uncut 9 + thick
evening special 863-3089 E29

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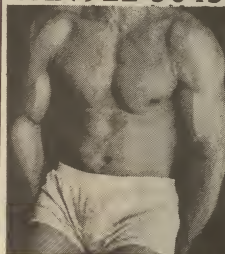
People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS

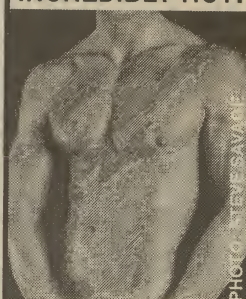
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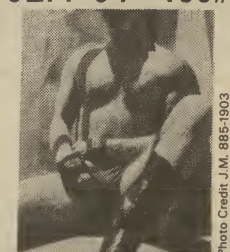
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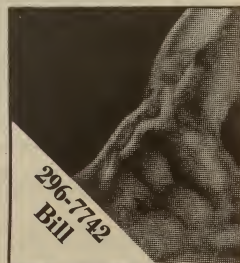
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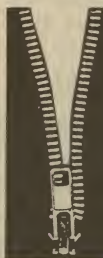
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Mr. Marcus

These Boots Are Made for Marchin'



IML Lenny Broberg and IMsL. "Blair," both of San Francisco, will be the star attractions on the Leather Pride Float this Sunday in the parade.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

When the 21st annual lesbian/gay parade steps off at noon this Sunday, June 28, the leather community will be beaming with pride when for the first time ever, International Ms. Leather (Blair), International Mr. Leather (Lenny) and International Mr. Drummer (Woody Bebout) will be ensconced together on the Leather Pride float. Other leather title holders and personalities will also be there, and the conveyance designed by Warren Cave and built by Nick Veratakis will be festooned with a wild as-

sortment of flags and even a motorcycle. Knowing Warren, it should be spectacular! Warren has never ever done anything that didn't generate admiration, and this float will be no different. Thanks to all the volunteers who have already helped with this project.

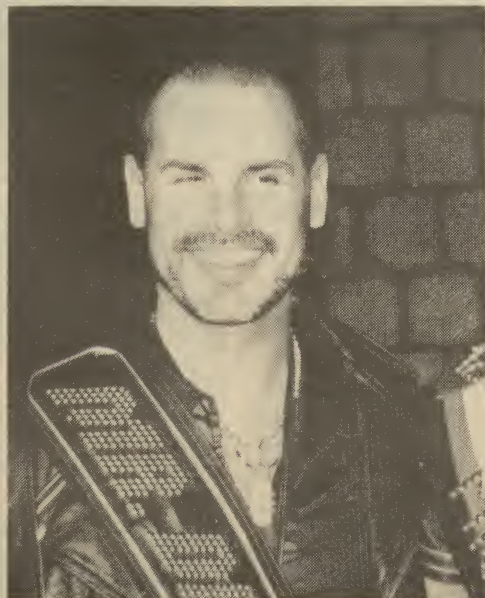
The float will have marchers ahead of it and behind, and it will be escorted by at least 20 motorcycles. The finished product has been in production for almost three weeks now, and you can help with the final decorating from noon to 1800 in-

side Pier 26 this Friday, June 26. That's right, we need volunteers, and if you want to help, report to Jerry Roberts and he'll put you to work. If you have any questions, call 345-4969. It's a labor of love and leather pride, so I know you'll want to be part of it.

If it's not possible for you to attend the parade, be advised that BML Video will be taping the entire event and rushes of all the action will be delivered to and screened at the SF-Eagle, Headquarters Bar, Polk Gulch Saloon and the Castro Station beginning at 1430 on Sunday and continuing until every bit of footage is shown. Luis Cordero and Mike McFadden will be capturing every moment, so smile for the cameras when you go by!

There are so many things going on in conjunction with the big parade that it would be impossible for me to list them all here. But events of interest to the leather/SM community will be highlighted. Wherever you may be, stay cool. Check out the entertainment and all the booths in Civic Center and revel in your big day! Let it shine!

It's too bad that the parade in Los Angeles is the same day as ours, but believe me, tourists are arriving by the plane-load from all over the globe even as you read this. Mr. Drummer Woody arrives late Thursday night; "Iron" Mike Pereyra arrives the same day; and "A.J." Steigenberger (Mr. Leather Boston), who was the second runner-up at IML in Chicago last month, is competing in Vienna on Friday, June 26, for the Mr. Leather Europe title but



International Mr. Drummer 1991-92 Woody Bebout flies in from St. Louis tonight to ride on the Leather Pride Float in this year's pride parade.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)



Mr. Leather Boston, "A.J." Steigenberger, and second runner-up at IML in Chicago last month, is competing for Mr. Leather Europe in Vienna on Friday, June 26, and hopes to be here to ride on the Leather Pride Float on Sunday. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

is trying to get here in time to ride on our float. If he wins the title, well, there's always next year.

Last week was not without its moments. Thursday, June 17, there were five chestworthies competing for the November '93 spot on the Eagle's bare-chest calendar. Judges Andy Anderson, Philip Turner of Headquarters bar and Frank Strona, editor of *Bear* and *Powerplay* magazines, were right in the spirit of things.

When all was said and done, 44-year-old Bob Harrison triumphed; the runner-up was Matthew Christian. The final spot, Mr. December '93, is up for grabs next Thursday, July 2. This is your last chance to do your bit for the AIDS Emergency Fund in an almost painless way! And on Thursday, July 9, all 12 winners will compete for the cover spot on the calendar. Hope to see you all there for the final two chapters.

And in case you forgot, all the contests have been videotaped by BML Video and will include highlights and the funniest moments of all 12 contests. Naturally, it will be for sale when it's finished!

I didn't make it to Dicky Davis' 25th birthday party on Saturday night at the Eagle, but I understand they raised a comfortable bundle for the AIDS Emergency Fund!

Big crowd for the beer/soda bust on Sunday for the Godfather Service Fund by dowager Leather Daddy Don Thompson and a nice turnout at Le Domino for the Daddy's Day dinners. Philip says he'll make

it an annual event! Sounds good!

Here are some items of interest you might want to look into in the coming days:

Thursday, June 25: Mark I. Chester's sex art salon with radical sex artists at 848 Divisadero tonight at 2000. It's a benefit for Mark's photo book coming out soon. General admission is \$10 or \$15 for a reserved seat. Call 544-1136 if you need more details.

Friday, June 26: Rita Rockett, Al Parker and Mark "Bubbles" Abramson are having a three-way tonight at Trax Bar (1437 Haight) beginning at 2000. It's really a three-way birthday party featuring the Fabulous Velcros, Gail Wilson of City Swing fame and Michael Greer — all in person! This is a benefit for Rita's Ward 5A Sunday dinners at SF General.

The Tom of Finland documentary, *Daddy and the Muscle Academy*, has its U.S. premiere at the SF International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival tonight at the Castro at 2100. Tickets are only \$6 for the film, and for \$25 (a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund and the Tom of Finland Foundation), there's a "silent" auction of Tom of Finland artifacts and a party at Cocktails Bar immediately following the screening. Ticket includes two "adult beverages," food and a chance to get some great items. You can buy a \$30 ticket for both events at all Mister S outlets.

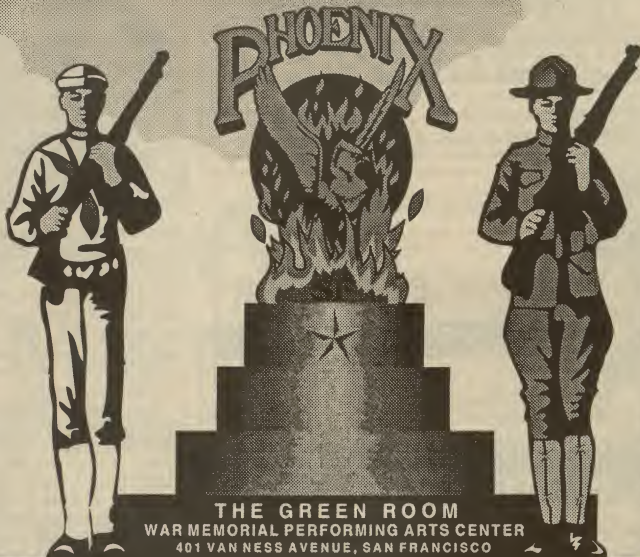
Looking for some esoteric sex? Links has a play party tonight for men, women and

(Continued on next page)

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SF Eagle manager Terry Thompson (r) was honored by the Castro Lions at their seventh anniversary dinner last week. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

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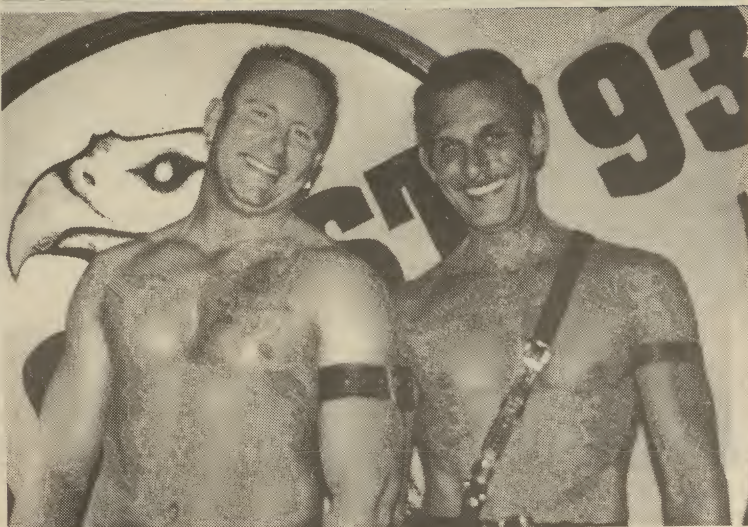
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Mr. Marcus



Bob Harrison (r) won the November '93 spot on the Eagle's Bare Chest Calendar at the contest last Thursday, June 18. The runner-up was Matthew Christian. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)

"others" for a \$15 donation at the door or \$12 with a donation of canned goods for Open Hand. Call 695-7955 for location and more details.

Saturday, June 27: Phoenix Uniform Club's Fantasy Military Ball in the Green Room of the War Memorial Building with entertainment by Gail Wilson and City Swing, open bar, buffet and color guard. It's the club's 15th anniversary party (formal), and uniforms are encouraged. Only \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Some of those hot Los Angeles uniform dudes are coming! Don't miss this one!

Bearhug/Leather Bear Group beer/soda bust at the Watering Hole from 1400-1700 to benefit Bear Expo '93. Their flier didn't say how much, but I'm sure you can afford it. Use your Bear Bucks or call 647-9127 if you must have more info.

Club MUD comes to town for two events. First off, Brother Duke is finally making it legal, and if you've never been to a MUD Wedding, it takes place when Duke makes his vows to "Rat" at high noon. Later on that night, it's the MUD Olympics at a Hunters Point location for \$20 or \$15 with a new pair of Levi's (in solidarity with Levi Strauss for their stand on withholding donations to the Boy Scouts). Call (707) 869-0546. The MUD Olympics are always great fun, and of course, Club MUD will march in the parade on Sunday.

The 15. Play Party is tonight. Doors open from 2100-2300, and it's Bondage & Buddy Night (\$10 for you and your

buddy gets in free). Call Peter at 673-0452 for location and details.

Dick Collier is back in town, and what better way to celebrate his homecoming than with a dance party at Trocadero Transfer! I don't have the details, but welcome home, Dick! Cha-cha the night away!

Sunday, June 28: The parade kicks off at noon. If you're in it, you should know by now where your staging area is! Smile pretty for the people, the cameras and the camcorders. The Cable Car Awards will be judging the floats, and BML Video will be taping the entire thing, so you can see yourself within hours at the above-mentioned watering holes.

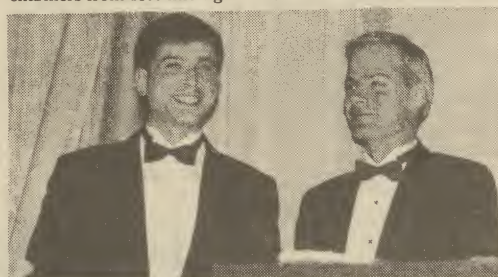
Big street carnival to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund, Stop AIDS Project and AIDS Health Project for only \$2 in front of Club Townsend (Third and Townsend), with rides, jugglers, fire-eaters, and snake charmers from 1600-midnight.

at the location you all know. This is the first year they haven't had a "pull" on parade day, but you'll survive. BYOB in cans. No poppers! Admission is \$6, and if you need more info, call 9790537.

Thursday, July 2: Final bare chest contest at the Eagle, looking for Mr. December 1993. Win \$100. Hear the Bare Chest Chorus. Begins at 2200. Doors open at Pleasuredome at 1800 for a big dance (\$10) and Thelma Houston in person! Loads of other dances all over town, but I only have so much space — and this one is, after all, a benefit!

Monday, June 29: SF Jacks present Post-Parade Pecker Pull and Pud Pageant so come on down and encourage the contestants!

Hey dudes and dudettes, have a wonderful Pride laugh and lunge. Whistle while you lurk, and be helpful and friendly to all our out-of-town guests. Wear your "skins," of course!



Handsome Ron Altomare, co-owner of the popular new Noodles Cafe on Upper Market St., was welcomed as the newest member of the Castro Lions by outgoing President Richard Eaton last Wednesday, June 17, at the Lions' seventh anniversary dinner. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)



The five contestants vying for the November '93 spot on the Eagle's Bare Chest Calendar last Thursday, June 18. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

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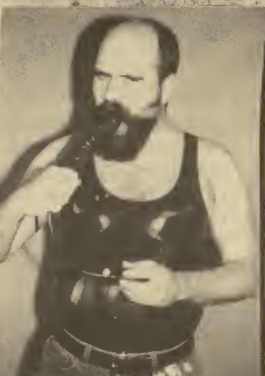
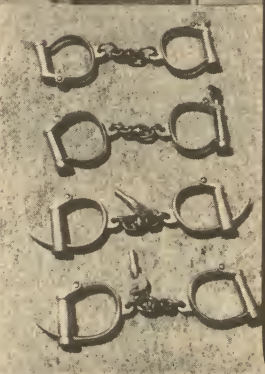
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Party Time

(Continued from page 81)

extra set of batteries for the pacemaker and tell the reverend to have the choir start without you, 'cause you're gonna be late for church. The highlight of the evening will be a live performance by erotic superstar Ryan Idol. Admission is free to the first 25 clubbers queued up.

Following Idol's performance, Colossus throws open the basement to present the late-night party Tang. This event runs until 10 a.m., in case you need something to do until the Parade begins. Five hundred pounds of fresh fruit and Electric Kool Aid will be given away. As long as you're in Colossus prior to 2 a.m., your admission to Tang is included, otherwise the price is \$5 (with a Tang invite).

Be Sure to Wear Some Flowers in Your Hair

Across town on Saturday night will be our other equally favorite gathering place, Care-Free, 177 Townsend, \$10. This evening's theme is Carefree Pride, and the club will be split into two entities with independent sound systems and

visits from six DJs, including Roger S., Doc Martin and Jan Cooley. We also have word to expect surprise guests from New York City — which could mean just about anything.

This club lives for its proud logo, "Care-Free Dancing, Pure Gay Love!" Combined with some of the hottest garage, house and techno grooves, be prepared to witness the city's fiercest imaginative minds unleashed and expressed in fashion, drag and thematic costume. Perhaps you'll understand what we mean when we say don't arrive until you peak. This is your hassle-free enjoyment zone.

The BIG Day

In addition to the parade, Sunday will see the first-ever Freedom Day Carnival, conveniently positioned on Townsend Street between 2nd and 3rd streets, in the front of the Pleasuredome. Admission is \$2 to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund, AIDS Health Project and Stop AIDS Project.

If you're interested in volunteering at the carnival please call 626-1861. Remember, the more volunteers, the more successful this event will be. I can't wait to see a post-parade

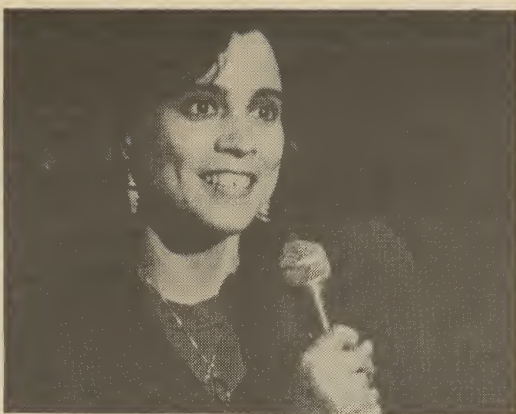
crowd of thousands climb aboard the Tilt-A-Whirl and Rollo-O-Plane. Also featured at the carnival will be a haunted house, funhouse, clowns, jugglers, fire-eaters, food, drink and a special guest appearance by the legendary disco diva Thelma Houston.

Pleasuredome opens its doors at 6 p.m. On floor No. 1, DJs Jerry Bonham and Alec Cunningham will mix up funk, techno-rave and house grooves. Over on No. 2, Steven Keen and Neil Lewis will rave on with disco, Hi-NRG and sleaze rhythms. Admission is \$10. The party lasts until dawn.

I'd also like to wish the crew of Pleasuredome a happy anniversary. They celebrated their second birthday last weekend. Here's looking forward to many more.

Pride Day also features at least four other dance/party extravaganzas. The lipstick lezzies will be kicking up their pumps at City Nights (on Harrison at Third) as Club Skirts and The Girl Spot present the Fourth Annual Gay Pride Dance Party for Women. Bonnie Pointer and the ineffable Marga Gomez will perform. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Meanwhile, down at Folsom and (278) 11th sts., Club Q and Wet will combine forces



Marvelous Marga: Ms. Gomez will seize the mike at the Fourth Annual Gay Pride Dance Party for Women. (Photo: Jorjet Harper)

for the "unforgettable" After Parade Party for women, showcasing DJ Annie "Finger-tips" Buerhaus and dancing under the stars. Tickets are \$8, and the doors also open at 5 p.m.

Not to be outdone, famed mixtress Page Hodel will be proclaiming her Pride to the world at the Box (628 Divisadero) at a special post-parade party for queers and dykes of all stripes. Tickets are

\$8, and the doors open at 5 p.m.

And if you still haven't had enough of that funky stuff, old reliable, The Stud (Ninth and Harrison), is open from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Sunday and no cover for those on a budget.

Enjoy yourselves this weekend and remember to be safe and aware both on and off the streets. Most of all, remember that every weekend is Gay Pride weekend. ▼

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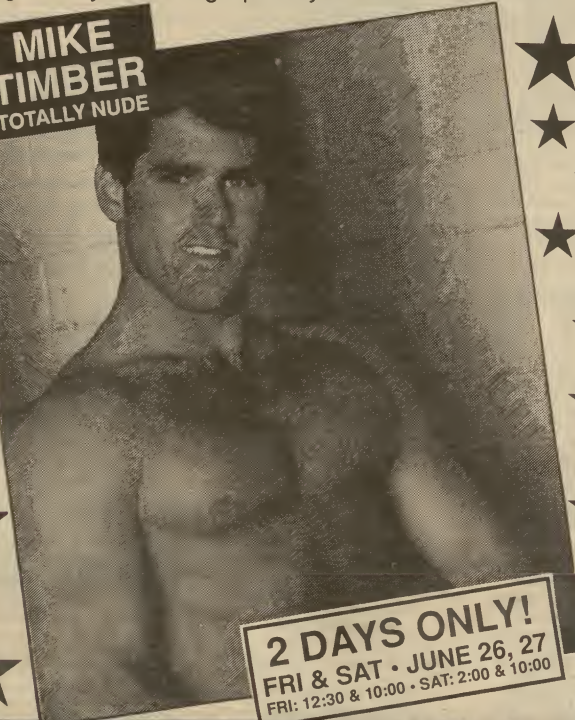
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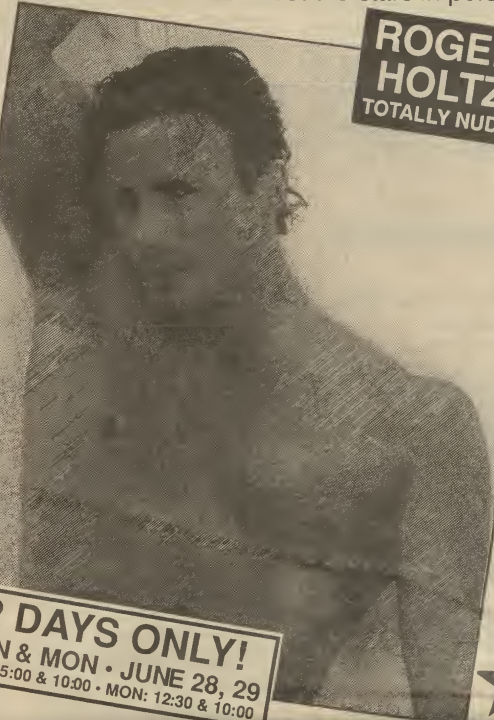
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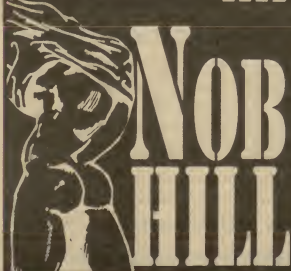
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